Announcing Browse & Bounce, Express Limited In-Person Service

Launching initially at the Main Library, with plans to offer service two weeks later at the Chinatown and Mission Bay Branch Libraries, the Library’s new, express in-person service Browse & Bounce offers several key services with safety at the fore. In the initial launch, look forward to browsing the First Floor Collection at the Main Library, including the newly-refreshed Lucky Day collection of recently released popular titles. Additionally, the browsing shelves on the first floor—which Main Library fans know as fiction and graphic novels—is expanding to include Spanish-language titles to appeal to an even larger population. Music and movies will also be available for immediate gratification. Eager readers and devourers of library materials may use self-checkout stations in order to minimize contact.

Those who are eager to engage with Library staff for reference questions and information services, however, will not be disappointed. Library staff will be available to answer questions and make recommendations. Additionally, patrons may reserve a computer for 50 minutes, and print, scan, fax and photocopy a limited quantity of pages for free.

In accordance with public health guidance, in this phase, patrons will be able to spend up to 60 minutes in Library buildings. The Main Library will be open Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., and Sunday, 12–5:30 p.m. beginning May 3. In subsequent weeks, the Main Children’s Center and other floors will open up to the public as well. Chinatown Branch will open May 17 and Mission Bay Branch will open May 18.

As San Francisco moves towards recovery, we look forward to bringing back our services fully. For the most current information on our reopening, visit sfpl.org.

Welcome Summer: Stride This June–August

You are invited to take part in enrichment activities to build reading skills and foster creativity! Story on page 7.

Standing Together: This AAPI Heritage Month

The month of May has always seen a blossoming of cultural programs and events at the Library that celebrate the vast quilt of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in San Francisco. This year, in light of ongoing reports of deadly violence and brutal assaults against Asian Americans both locally and nationally, I reach out to you with this: Take advantage of the vast resources offered by the Library to educate yourself on AAPI heritage and share your discoveries with others. Get involved to protect our elders and the vulnerable against acts of hate. Lastly, enjoy, uplift and celebrate the many faces and rich, varied backgrounds that our AAPI communities offer. We can only move forward if we take a stand together.

Sincerely,
Michael Lambert
City Librarian

Build Your Skills During Tech Week

Zoom video conferencing was nobody’s first choice of venue for a birthday party or a baby shower, but in 2020, many people spent more time online than they expected. Now, an end to the pandemic is in sight—but we’ll still need technology long after all that extra hand sanitizer is used up.

Whether you are building new skills or just getting started, San Francisco’s 2021 Tech Week May 9–15 is here to help. A team effort between the Library and many wonderful community partners, Tech Week is like a technology conference for all of San Francisco, featuring sessions on everything from web basics to building your own site.

Offerings include classes on digital wellness for youth, cryptocurrency, Google Drive and coding for teens. Most events will take place on Zoom, and some will also stream live from SFPL’s YouTube page. The full lineup is at sfpl.org/connectwithtech.

Need help to attend online events, or need to talk to someone about your technology question? Tech Week partners can help. Tenderloin Tech Lab is offering “office hours” help for topics like resetting your password, completing online applications or accessing Zoom: call (415) 592-2766 to make your appointment. And Felton Institute’s Tech Squad is offering help appointments in English, Cantonese and Mandarin. Call (415) 960-5211 to book your slot with Tech Squad.

SFPL’s Learning & Literacy center, The Bridge at Main, is also operating a tech help hotline during May 9–15. Call (415) 557-4388 for referrals to low cost internet deals and devices, or just general technology troubleshooting. We’ll talk to you soon, or see you in class online!

Discover More about the City You Love Through Our Total SF Book Club

Alia Volz’s compulsively readable—make that compulsively readable! —memoir Home Baked: My Mom, Marijuana, and the Stoning of San Francisco kicks off the first Total SF Book Club.

San Francisco Chronicle columnist Heather Knight and pop culture critic Peter Hartlaub, founders of the Chronicle’s TotalSF, are celebrating San Francisco through the pages of their new book club. Knight, Hartlaub and the Library will curate a quarterly event with local authors and books celebrating San Francisco. They’ll include a wide array of genres—fiction, nonfiction, history, YA and even graphic novels—focused on the city they love. Follow their TotalSF podcast to hear upcoming episodes featuring interviews with the authors.

In Home Baked, Volz recounts how during the ‘70s in San Francisco, her mother ran the underground business Sticky Fingers Brownies, delivering upwards of 10,000 illegal marijuana edibles per month throughout the circus-like atmosphere of a city in the throes of major change.

Volz is a homegrown San Francisco. Her writing appears in The Best American Essays 2017, the New York Times, Tin House and The Threepenny Review among others.

Total SF Book Club with Alia Volz, Home Baked: My Mom, Marijuana, and the Stoning of San Francisco—May 20, 7 p.m. bit.ly/TotalSF5-20-21

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Meet the Friendly Staffers Behind the Language and Kids TIP Lines

I am a library tech supervisor at the Portola Branch. I was born in Vietnam. My family and I left Vietnam when I was 10 years old on a small boat in 1978. We stayed at the immigration camp on one of the islands of Malaysia for almost two years. When we arrived at the USA, we could not speak any English at all. Luckily we were helped by others in language translation. Now almost half a century later, I work at the San Francisco Public Library which enables me to help other Vietnamese newcomers through Vietnamese language line. – Eric

I’ve been serving our wonderfully diverse city as a librarian with the San Francisco Public Library since 2007. Although I don’t speak Filipino, I’m looking forward to connecting the Filipino community to our resources through professional translators. – Benjamin

I used to be the Japanese services librarian at Western Addition Branch. I am very happy to serve Japanese patrons again! – Chieko

Raised in San Jose and educated at San Francisco State University, I’m proud to serve the Latino community and hope to hear from them soon! – Francisco

I’m the Ingleside Branch manager and librarian. My goal is to provide library services and access to information to all patrons who want to reserve books or other library materials. I help Russian speaking patrons and patrons with ethnically diverse backgrounds. I also assist the patrons with advanced search and advisory needs. Need help? I’m only one call away! – Nina

I can read, write and speak Chinese (Cantonese). I am happy to help parents to find books for their kids and seniors to give DVDs for enjoyment. – Eric

I am a children’s librarian at the Excelsior Branch and have been conducting Mandarin bilingual storytime since 2003. I was born in Taiwan. – Mei

Meet the librarians of the Main Children’s Center and The Mix! We are the ones happy to take your calls at the Kids’ Telephone Information line (415) 557-4554 and connect you with the best in books for children and teens. Ask us for great DVDs and audiobooks, as well. We offer a variety of fascinating virtual programming for young viewers through sfpl.org. Just click on Kids or Teens to see what’s new!

How to eBook in 3 Simple Steps!

¡Los libros digitales en 3 pasos simples! 只需 三個簡單步驟，電子書在您手中!

1. Choose an eBook service. The most popular ones are Libby, Axis 360 and hoopla.
2. Get its mobile app from your app store or read online in your web browser through the Libby, Axis 360 or hoopla website.
3. Use your SFPL card to borrow an eBook and start reading immediately. You may also place holds on wait-listed titles.

Your eBook will return itself at the end of the loan period, which is usually 21 days.

Ve a sfpl.org/ebooks para más información sobre nuestras extensas colecciones de libros digitales, incluyendo títulos en diferentes idiomas.
n connection with our 2021 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month (AAPI) celebration, SFPL has selected Vanessa Hua as our On the Same Page author for her book A River of Stars, a novel about motherhood, immigration and identity.

In A River of Stars, protagonist Scarlett Chen finds herself holed up with other mothers-to-be in a secret maternity home in Los Angeles, far from her native China, where she worked in a factory and fell in love with the owner, Boss Yeung. Now she’s carrying his baby. Yeung, already married with three daughters, is overjoyed because the doctors confirmed he will finally have the son he has always wanted. To ensure his son has every advantage, he sends Scarlett off to give birth on American soil and to gain U.S. citizenship.

As Scarlett awaits the baby’s arrival, she chokes down bitter medicinal stews and spars with her imperious housemates. The only one who fits in even less is Daisy, a spirited teenager and unwed mother who has been separated from her American boyfriend. When a new sonogram of Scarlett’s baby reveals the unexpected, she escapes by hijacking a van—only to discover that she has a stowaway. Together, they flee to San Francisco’s bustling Chinatown, where Scarlett will join countless immigrants desperately trying to seize their piece of the American dream. What Scarlett doesn’t know is that her baby’s father is not far behind her.

Vanessa Hua will be in conversation with writer Yalitza Ferreras discussing writing and Hua’s book. Vanessa Hua is an award-winning, best-selling author and columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle. Her novel, A River of Stars, was named to the Washington Post and NPR’s Best Books of 2018 lists, and has been called a “marvel” by G. The Oprah Magazine, and “delightful” by The Economist.

Her forthcoming novel, Forbidden City, will be published in spring 2022. For two decades, Hua has been writing about Asia and the diaspora, filing stories from China, Burma, Panama, South Korea and Ecuador. She began her career at the Los Angeles Times before heading east to the Hartford Courant. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, San Francisco Magazine, Washington Post, The Atlantic and Newsweek, among other publications.

Yalitza Ferreras is the recipient of a 2020 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers’ Award and a recent Steinbeck Fellow at San Jose State University. Her writing has appeared in Best American Short Stories 2016, Kenyon Review, Bellevue Literary Review and elsewhere. Ferreras received an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Michigan where she won the Thesis Prize and is the recipient of fellowships and awards from Djerassi, Yaddo, Ucross, Barbara Deming Memorial Fund for Women, San Francisco Writers’ Grotto and Voices of Our Nation.

On the Same Page Readlikes


Separated: Inside an American Tragedy by Jacob Soboroff

Beginning last November, the Library has hosted our Social Justice Book Club every other month. This forum aims to discuss a book relevant to our time and place, that speaks to the current moment. For May, join a conversation with Jacob Soboroff’s Separated: Inside an American Tragedy.

Soboroff, a correspondent for NBC News and MSNBC, was one of the first journalists to see firsthand the living conditions of children in custody under the Trump administration’s separation of thousands of migrant families at the US-Mexico Border. He spent two years reporting on this complex story. The extent and scope of these separations is still being uncovered and unravelled. If you’re interested in discussion around this book, we encourage you to attend. Or if you’re looking for your next read, please consider one of our past selections: Caste: An American Lyric by Claudia Rankine, Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson and An Indigenous People’s History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz.
This May, we are proud to spotlight the richness, beauty and diversity of Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) cultures with a bevy of virtual experiences for youth and adults.

**Highlights for Youth**

We kick off our annual celebration with a reading by Oliver Chin, highlighting Dolly Gee’s advocacy for social justice, coordinated in part with the APIA Biography Project. All the way from Japan, sisters Shizuha and Chise Mukaidani continue their mother’s tradition on behalf of the Yamaguchi Children’s Center in a presentation of kamishibai, a 90-year-old Japanese tradition of picture-card storytelling. For K-Pop stans of all ages, get moving in a dance class featuring music from your fave K-Pop Idols, e.g. Twice, BTS, Blackpink and more.

Listen to the stories of Queen Lili‘uokalani, the final monarch of the Kingdom of Hawai‘i, and learn a simple hula from Halau Ha‘a Kea o Kinohi with students appearing from Hawai‘i, Japan and California. Tony Robles, The People’s Poet, award-winning author and social justice activist, reads his book Lakas and the Makibaka Hotel coordinated in part with The APIA Biography Project. Meet Raf Salazar and Don Aguillo, comic artists, writers and creators of Clan of Saints Bay, a graphic novel project produced by Kularts that spotlights the heroes of the SOMA Pilipinas community. Finally, learn about the career paths, hear stories, successes and tips from professionals in presentations from Elizabeth Hom featured at Career Girls and in a special segment of Talk Story with Tui by Pacific Islanders Encouraging Fun, Engineering, Science and Technology (PIEFEST), a non-profit organization founded by Pacific Islander parents in search of a community within STEM.

**AAPI Events for Youth**

- **Oliver Chin** – April 28, 12 p.m.
- **Kamishibai - Japanese Art of Picture Storytelling** – May 4, 2 p.m.
- **Tony Robles and Carl Angel** – May 5, 12 p.m.
- **Kristen Mai Giang** – May 12, 10:30 a.m.
- **Raf Salazar and Don Aguillo** – May 18, 2 p.m.
- **Elizabeth Yang with Career Girls** – May 20, 10:30 a.m.
- **Talk Story with Tui with PIEFEST** – May 25, 2 p.m.
- **Halau Ha‘a Kea o Kinohi** – May 26, 6 p.m.
- **K-Pop Dance Class** – May 29, 1 p.m.

**Fresh Reads for AAPI Month**

- **How to Pronounce Knife** by Souvankham Thammavongsa
  - Hopes, disappointments, love affairs and the day-to-day lives of immigrants and refugees are written about in this collection of stories, written with joy, humor and wonder.

- **Homeland Elegies** by Ayad Akhtar
  - Ayad Akhtar forges a new narrative voice to capture a country in which debt has ruined countless lives and the gods of finance rule, where immigrants live in fear and where the nation’s unhealed wounds wreak havoc around the world.

- **A Burning** by Megha Majumdar
  - After a fiery attack on a train leaves 104 people dead, the fates of three people become inextricably entangled and Jivan, a woman looking for a way out of poverty, is wrongly accused of planning the attack.

- **Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning** by Cathy Park Hong
  - Poet and essayist Cathy Park Hong fearlessly confronts the thorny subject of the “Asian American condition”—if such a thing exists—blending memoir, cultural criticism and history to expose the truth of racialized consciousness in America.

- **Exhalation** by Ted Chiang
  - This thought-provoking and exhilarating story collection tackles humanity’s oldest questions.

- **Mister Jiu’s in Chinatown** by Brandon Jew
  - Along with 90 recipes, this cookbook by the chef of SF’s Mister Jiu’s shares some of the culinary history of SF’s Chinatown and its iconic dishes, restaurants and chefs.

- **Amboy: Recipes From the Filipino-American Dream** by Alvin Cailan
  - Chef Cailan includes recipes, interviews and essays that tell his story of being a first-generation Filipino immigrant growing up in California.
May 2021: Visit sfpl.org/API

Highlights for Adults

Any amazing events for adults celebrating AAPI Heritage Month are headed your way, featuring music, authors, art and panel discussions. Rock historian Richie Unterberger presents Asian Rock, covering artists from more than half a dozen countries, spanning many genres and artists including Shonen Knife, Yokoo Ono, Ryuichi Sakamoto, Kyu Sakamoto, Dengue Fever and Norah Jones. Dr. Russell Low shares the story of Ah Ying and Chinese American history through the building of the Transcontinental Railroad to the devastating effects of the Chinese Exclusion Act and subsequent slave trafficking of young Chinese women. Alka Joshi discusses effects of the Chinese Exclusion Act and Transcontinental Railroad to the devastating American history through the building of the

Children's Language Titles

Adult

知曉我姓名 Chanel Miller

於2015年1月斯坦佛大學發生的性侵案震惊全美。受害人化名為香奈兒.米勒以實名發表法庭陳述。在輿論的影響下,加州罷免受害者香奈兒.米勒決定站出來,以實名發表法庭陳述。時隔四

Chinese Rock with Richie Unterberger

Asian Rock by Richie Unterberger – May 1, 2 p.m.
Dr. Russell Low – May 2, 11 a.m.
Alka Joshi – May 4, 7 p.m.
Muriel Leung – May 5, 6 p.m. A partnership with Keenly Street Workshop
Haruki Murakami’s The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle – May 6, 6 p.m.

Cooking with Martin Yan

Chinese American chef Martin Yan joins us for another unforgettable cooking class from his virtual kitchen. Mark Jayson Quines, Japenese American Islander, Americans and Park Rangers. Exhilarating as all sounds, we have more in store.

Chinatown Pretty

Andria Lo and Valerie Luu discuss their Instagram hit book Chinatown Pretty, the book that captures the street-style of seniors citizens across six North American Chinatowns.

Facing Mecca: Reflections of Islam in Art and Change

Art as a Vehicle for Social and Political Commentary

Shoko Higake Performs Music for Koto

May 19, 3 p.m.
Park Rangers Converse on the Power of Place

A River of Stars

Vanessa Hua in Conversation with Yalitza Ferreras, the book that

On the Same Page Book Club: Vanessa Hua, A River of Stars

– May 8, 1 p.m.

Cooking with Martin Yan – May 7, 2 p.m.

Trese writer Budjette Tan and artist Kajo Baldisimo, creators of the award-winning urban fantasy graphic novel, Trese, discuss the books, art and their upcoming Netflix series inspired by the book. The Asian Art Museum gives a visual presentation of their Islamic art collection. Mia P.

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## Virtual Event Calendar: May 2021

### Adults

**1 Saturday**
- Asian Rock by Richie Unterberger
  - 2–3:30 p.m.

**2 Sunday**
  - One Family’s Story, Lecture by Dr. Rüssell Low
  - 11 a.m.

**5 Tuesday**
- The Henna Artist
  - 11 a.m.

**6 Wednesday**
- Virtual Library Tech Time: Connect with Tech Week, May 9–15
  - 10 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

### Youth

#### Early Childhood/ Family

**3 Thursday**
- Art as a Vehicle for Social and Political Commentary and Change
  - 3–4:30 p.m.

**4 Monday**
- Introduction to Cryptocurrencies
  - 3–4 p.m.

**5 Saturday**
- Take Pictures on Your Phone
  - 10–11 a.m.

### Elementary and Middle School Age

**2 Thursday**
- Kamishibai: Japanese Art of Picture Storytelling
  - 2–2:45 p.m.

**3 Wednesday**
- Author: Tony Robbins and Carl Angel
  - 12–12:30 p.m.

**4 Thursday**
- Author: Kristen Mai Giang
  - 10:30–11:15 a.m.

**5 Thursday**
- Get the Most out of Your Chromebook
  - 4–5 p.m.

**6 Wednesday**
- Performance: Halau Ha’a Kea o Kinohi
  - 6–7 p.m.

### Middle School Age, Teen

**2 Thursday**
- Elizabeth Yang with Career Girls
  - 10:30–11 a.m.

**2 Saturday**
- X-POP Dance Class 1–1:45 p.m.

**9 Sunday**
- Minecraft Chinatown Alleyway Tour 1–2:30 p.m.

### College Prep Classes

**3 Monday**
- Mindfulness 5–6:30 p.m.

**4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Monday–Friday**
- ACT Prep Test (Session A) 5–6 p.m.

**9 Saturday**
- College Entrance Writing & Common Application
  - 4–5:30 p.m.

**10 Monday**
- College Admissions Match Process
  - 3–4:30 p.m.

### Access to Online Resources

- Find Affordable Housing Online 2–3 p.m.
- Free Video Streaming Apps 10–11 a.m.
- Scan and Share Your Photos 1–2 p.m.
- Intro to Cryptocurrencies 6–7 p.m.

Visit sfpl.org/virtual-library, sfpl.org/kids/virtual-library and sfpl.org/teen-virtual-library. You can also call us for assistance with registering for programs: (415) 557-4400.
Support Friends

Enable the Library to help the community to recover, reopen and reconnect.

Your support for the Library—Friends partnership provides a beacon of hope for San Francisco! As the City recovers from the challenges wrought by the pandemic and economic downturn, your financial contributions are needed now more than ever. During the last year, our communities found the Library’s online resources to be a life buoy supplying entertainment and information, and virtual programming expanded to meet a surge in demand. Although the vaccine rollout is cause for celebration, big challenges remain: unemployment is twice pre-pandemic levels, small businesses are suffering and children face steep academic losses. Friends is dedicated to the community, right alongside the Library, helping accelerate recovery with expanded job search resources, small business programs and tutoring for children.

Please consider a gift to Friends to help the community to recover, reopen and reconnect. To make your gift, visit friendssfpl.org/donate.

Welcome Summer Stride
This June–August

You are invited to take part in enrichment activities to build reading skills and foster creativity!

- Author talks, reading lists and book giveaways
- STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) learning
- Mindful experiences in nature
- Workforce development opportunities for teens
- Meaningful connections for all ages for our diverse community

¡Estás invitado a tomar parte en actividades enriquecedoras para desarrollar las habilidades de lectura y fomentar la creatividad!

- Pláticas de autor, listas de lectura y libros de regalo
- Aprendizaje STEM (ciencia, tecnología, ingeniería y matemáticas)
- Vivencias contemplativas en la naturaleza
- Oportunidades de capacitación laboral para adolescentes
- Conexiones significativas para todas las edades para nuestra diversa comunidad

Friends Bookstore
Visit friendssfpl.org for updates. Friends staff are currently observing Shelter in Place.

Donate to Friends at friendssfpl.org/support

SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY TODAY:
RECOVER, REOPEN, RECONNECT

A new Main Library built!
Library commissioners fired (in 1995)!
Landslide ballot measures win!

Read all about the action-packed history of the Friends of the San Francisco Library.
In celebration of the 60th anniversary of Friends, we are writing our history in monthly installments throughout 2021—-from our founding, to the creation of the partnerships with SFPL, the fight to build a new Main Library, the creation of the Library Preservation Fund, the Brand Library Improvement Program and now, as we support SFPL and the community through COVID recovery.

The first three chapters were published in our monthly e-newsletter and on our blog at friendssfpl.org/blog. To receive our next monthly history installment hot off the press, please sign up for Friends’ newsletter at friendssfpl.org.

We know that many of you out there were part of these moments in our 60 years of Library activism and support. If you have a personal story to share, we want to hear it. Please send stories to info@friendssfpl.org.

Join us in celebrating our anniversary!

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
- Bird & Beckett Books & Records
- Bolierium Books
- Books, Inc.
- Booksmith
- Borderlands Books
- Christopher’s Books
- Chronicle Books
- Compass Books, Inc.
- Dog Eared Books
- Eastwind Books
- Globus Slavic Bookstore
- Green Apple Books & Music
- The Green Arcade
- Louie Brothers Book Store, Inc.
- Marcus Book Stores
- Omnivore Books on Food
- San Francisco Botanical Gardens, Garden Bookstore

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.
May 2021

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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 San Francisco Public Library with support and funding from Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

Online version: sfpl.org/atl

How to reach us
San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone hours: Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, 12-5:30 p.m.
(415) 557-4400 and (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 (See box at right)

eBook Assistance:
sfpl.org/books-and-media/ebook-collections
Assistance with Registering for Programs:
(415) 557-4400

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

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
Events for all ages, see pages 4–5.

“The most important part of writing and art is grace... Turning a negative into a positive. Yes, it’s a horrible feeling, but there are things we can do that push us toward beauty and demonstrate what’s possible. There’s still an opening there. Those things don’t die.”

– People’s Poet, Tony Robles