San Francisco Public Library & San Francisco Human Rights Commission present

EVERYBODY READS
2021 SUMMER GUIDE

SF LIBRARIES

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The titles chosen for the Everybody Reads Summer Guide represent the intentionality of giving voice and space to underrepresented populations to which San Francisco Public Library has dedicated itself. Children need to see themselves in the mirror books hold up.

**DISCUSSION GUIDE CREATED BY:**
Sheryl E. Davis, Executive Director, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

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**ABOUT THE SUMMER STRIDE 2021 ARTIST:**
Kaylani Juanita illustrates inclusive picture books, such as Ta-Da!, When Aidan Became a Brother, The Little Things and Magnificent Homespun Brown, which received the 2021 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Award. Her mission as an artist is to support the stories of the underrepresented and create new ways for people to imagine themselves. California grown and raised, she has studied at California Institute of the Arts, California College of the Arts and the University of California, Davis. She currently lives in Fairfield, CA. While working on Summer Stride, she was inspired by her days in San Francisco. You can find her on Instagram @kaylanijuanita.
Dear Reader,

This summer we celebrate you and your willingness to continue your learning over these next few months, as well as the amazing, diverse authors and illustrators making books today. Summer is a critical time to exercise your mind and body to stay ahead of summer slide. Not only that, books can transport you to new places, help you meet new friends and give you the tools you need to succeed later in life.

To help you with this, we are teaming up to provide you with books and creative tools to keep learning throughout the summer. Our Human Rights Commission and San Francisco Public Library have created this book-inspired activity kit and we invite you to join us for virtual visits with the award-winning authors featured in this summer guide. For a full schedule of author visits, go to sfpl.org/summerstride.

We hope you’ll join us to keep up your learning and advance your reading goals with our Everybody Reads Summer Guide. It is crucial that, especially given the events of the past year, we do everything we can to make sure no one falls behind in their learning and growth.

You are the leaders—and authors and illustrators—of tomorrow. We hope these stories and activities will motivate and inspire you to pursue your passions, build new dreams and achieve your goals.

Have a fantastic summer learning, exploring and reading!

Mayor London N. Breed  
City of San Francisco

Sheryl Evans Davis  
SF Human Rights Commission

Michael Lambert  
City Librarian
SUMMER STRIDE ACTIVITY TRACKER

San Francisco Public Library * Summer 2021 * ons.fpl.org/summerstride

Use your library card to track online. Sign up: sfpl.beanstack.org
EVERYBODY READS SUMMER GUIDE

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MORE FUN FREE ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE!
Download at on.sfpl.org/everybody-reads.
AMBITIOUS GIRL
Written by Meena Harris and Illustrated by Marissa Valdez

When a young girl sees a strong woman on TV labeled as “too assertive” and “too ambitious,” it sends her on a journey of discovery through past, present and future about the challenges faced by women and girls and the ways in which they can reframe, redefine and reclaim words meant to knock them down.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – MEENA HARRIS
Meena Harris was born into a family of ambitious women whose legacy continues to inspire her. Meena herself is a lawyer and entrepreneur, as well as a #1 New York Times-bestselling author. In 2017 she founded Phenomenal, a female-powered organization that brings awareness to social causes. She currently resides in San Francisco with her partner and two daughters.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR – MARISSA VALDEZ
Marissa Valdez grew up on the South Texas border, dreaming that one day she’d be drawing for her job. Marissa graduated with a BFA in Animation from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design and has worked as a preschool teacher, graphic designer and freelance illustrator since. Marissa hopes that her work encourages young girls to be ambitious and to dream big. She lives in Houston, Texas with her two ambitiously large cats. You can learn more about her at marissavaldez.com.
THIS IS ME!

Draw yourself on the podium.
AMY WU AND THE PERFECT BAO
Written by Kat Zhang and Illustrated by Charlene Chua

Amy loves to make bao with her family. But it takes skill to make the bao taste and look delicious. And her bao keeps coming out all wrong. Then she has an idea that may give her a second chance. Will Amy ever make the perfect bao?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – KAT ZHANG
Kat Zhang has been an avid reader for as long as she can remember. After a childhood spent living in books, she now builds stories for other people to visit. In addition to her young adult trilogy, The Hybrid Chronicles, she has also published two middle-grade novels, The Emperor’s Riddle and The Memory of Forgotten Things, as well as two picture books, Amy Wu & the Perfect Bao and Amy Wu & the Patchwork Dragon. The third in the series, Amy Wu & the Warm Welcome, will be released in Summer 2022.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR – CHARLENE CHUA
Charlene Chua draws many things, from baos to dragons to, literally, the kitchen sink. When she is not drawing, she enjoys playing or talking to her cats (they listen politely, most of the time). Charlene grew up in Singapore and now lives in Canada. Her favorite bao are “char siu” bao!
MY MENU

Amy Wu said she could eat bao all day. Fill in the menu with foods you could eat all day.

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<th>MAIN DISHES</th>
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Meet Astro Girl. Astrid has loved the stars and space for as long as she can remember. “I want to be an astronaut!” she says to everyone who will listen. While her mama is away, Astrid and her papa have fun acting out the challenges an astronaut faces on a space mission, while also baking cookies and conducting fun experiments. The best part of the day, though, is when Astrid and Papa go pick up Mama from work.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR
KEN WILSON-MAX

Ken Wilson-Max was born and raised in Zimbabwe, where he trained to be a graphic designer with a strong focus on critical thinking. Ken has worked on more than 70 published books for children since 1995. His books have been published worldwide in over 10 languages, from Chinese to Zulu. His latest title, Astro Girl, is winner of the STEAM Children’s Book Prize 2020. Ken works with several UK organizations, including the BookTrust, Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE) and International Board on Books for the Young (IBBY), Association of Illustrators and World Book Day. He is an Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) 2021 nominee. Ken is the owner/publisher at Alanna Max Ltd (alannamax.com) which publishes naturally inclusive, diverse children’s books. Ken says, “I have always believed that it is worth celebrating how people are more similar than different. I have also seen over the last few decades how much better it is for children of all backgrounds to see or read themselves in books.”
WRITE A STORY

Write a story using these words:

STARS  SCIENCE  EXPLORE  GRAVITY  SPACESHIP

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Awâsis and the World-Famous Bannock

Written by Dallas Hunt and Illustrated by Amanda Strong

Awâsis is so excited to deliver yummy treats to a relative, and so devastated when they are dropped and ruined. Luckily, Kôhkum's bannock recipe is so famous, all the other-than-human friends in the forest know its ingredients and are willing to help—in English and in Cree. Along the way, Awâsis learns not only the recipe for a traditional treat, but how to solve problems with the help of friends and good humor.

About the Author - Dallas Hunt

Dallas Hunt is Cree and a member of Wapsewsipi (Swan River First Nation) in Treaty Eight territory in northern Alberta. He has had creative works published in Contemporary Verse 2, Prairie Fire, PRISM international and Arc Poetry. His first children’s book, Awâsis and the World-Famous Bannock, was published through Highwater Press in 2018, and was nominated for several awards. His new book, Creeland, is due out through Nightwood Editions in 2021. Hunt is an assistant professor of Indigenous literatures at the University of British Columbia.

About the Illustrator - Amanda Strong

Amanda Strong is a Michif, Indigenous filmmaker, media artist and stop-motion director currently based out of the unceded Coast Salish territory also known as Vancouver, British Columbia. She has exhibited work and screened films worldwide, including at the Cannes Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, Vancouver International Film Festival and the Ottawa International Animation Festival.
CREE LANGUAGE MEMORY CARDS

Cut out the cards, turn them over and find the matches.
PALETERO MAN
Written by Lucky Diaz and Illustrated by Micah Player

Run alongside a little boy on a quest to find the Paletero Man throughout his busy neighborhood. But when he finally catches up with him, his pockets are empty. Oh no! What happened to his dinero? It will take the help of the entire community to get the tasty treat. A story about generosity, kindness and community, *Paletero Man* will surely make you want to search out for a tasty paleta treat too!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR — LUCKY DIAZ
Lucky Diaz is a multi–Latin Grammy Award–winning and six-time Emmy–nominated musician and songwriter. His work has been praised by NPR, *Billboard Magazine* and *The New York Times*. In 2020, his album *Buenos Diaz* was named an official selection of notable works for children by the American Library Association. He currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Alisha, and daughter, Indiana Maven. His favorite paleta flavor is horchata.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR — MICAH PLAYER
Micah Player began his career designing and illustrating for Paul Frank Industries in Southern California. He is the author of *Chloe, Instead* and the illustrator of several books and games for children, including *Vote for Our Future! and Friday Night Wrestlefest*. He lives in a little house beneath a giant tree in the Utah mountains, with a lovely schoolteacher named Stephanie. They are the parents of two rad kids, one Yorkshire terrier and several Casio keyboards. His favorite paleta is fresas con crema.
¡PALETAS PARA TODOS!

Write the correct word into the corresponding squares:

- **FRIENDS**
- **THANK YOU**
- **THE BEST**
- **SMELL**
- **SORRY**

**TIO ERNESTO**

Write the English word for **GRACIAS** in the orange space.

**MS. LEE**

Write the English word for **AROMA** in the blue space.

**FRANK**

Write the English word for **LO SIENTO** in the gray space.

**COLORFUL & PRETTY**

Write the English word for **AMIGOS** in the green space.

**¡EJERCITO!**

Write the English word for **ESTA PERDIDO!** in the green space.

**PALETAS FOR ALL!**
What makes a good story? One little girl thinks it’s a princess with magical powers that can—ta-da!—overcome any obstacle. Her friend thinks it’s—dun dun duh!—a combination of dragons, pirates and fire that cause total chaos. But as their stories intertwine, these two young storytellers soon learn that a good story needs both conflict—dun dun duh!—and resolution—ta-da! An irresistible celebration of imaginary play, storytelling and the joys of collaboration.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – KATHY ELLEN DAVIS
Kathy Ellen Davis is a writer, bookseller and educator who grew up making stories with her toys. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area. Ta Da! is her first book.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR – KAYLANI JUANITA
Kaylani Juanita is a Bay Area native and winner of the 2021 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor. She illustrates inclusive picture books, editorial art and afros. Follow her on Instagram @kaylanijuanita.
**MAGICAL MEMORY CARDS**

Cut out the cards, turn them over and find the matches.

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<td><img src="image30.png" alt="Egg" /></td>
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MAKE YOUR OWN MAGIC
Cut out the cards and draw a picture or write directions on the opposite side. Make up your own game or activity.
A PLACE INSIDE OF ME

Written by Zetta Elliott and Illustrated by Noa Denmon

Feeling your feelings is not always easy. This is a powerful poem about a young kid just like you, living in a place just like this and feeling happy and sad just like you. A Place Inside of Me can help you reach that place inside where love and light live in us all.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR — ZETTA ELLIOTT

Zetta Elliott is a Black feminist writer of poetry, plays, essays, novels and stories for children. She earned her PhD in American Studies from NYU in 2003; she has taught at Ohio University, Louisiana State University, Mount Holyoke College, Hunter College, Bard High School Early College and Borough of Manhattan Community College. Her poetry has been published in We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices, and her essays have appeared in School Library Journal, The Huffington Post and Publishers Weekly. Her picture book Bird won the Coreetta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent, the Lee & Low New Voices Honor Award and the Paterson Prize for Books and Young People. It was also a Kirkus Reviews Best Book, and an ALA Notable Children’s Book. She lives in Evanston, IL.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR — NOA DENMON

Noa Denmon is an award-winning illustrator who has worked with clients such as The New York Times, Google, Penguin and Macmillan Publishers. She won a Caldecott Honor Award in 2020 for her debut children’s book, A Place Inside of Me, which tells the story of a boy who reckons with his identity as a Black child in a world of pain. She loves to uplift and depict the stories of the underrepresented and hopes to create work that displays humanity in all of its differences.
A PLACE INSIDE OF ME

Complete the following crossword puzzle to reveal a secret word.

1: hopeful, 2: love, 3: deep, 4: flows, 5: inside, 6: hunger, 7: grow, 8: myself

Secret Word: feelings

Full of optimism

Celebrated in February

Far down or intense or extreme

A steady movement

The inner part of something

A strong feeling of irritation

To expand or increase

I or me personally

The Day You Begin
Written by Jacqueline Woodson and Illustrated by Rafael López

We’ve all felt a little scared in a new place with new people. Come along with a little girl as she navigates her first day of school and discovers all sorts of familiar, and sometimes not-so-familiar things about her new classmates. Even feeling scared and alone, the little girl finds the courage to make connections through sharing and listening to personal stories.

About the Author – Jacqueline Woodson
Jacqueline Woodson is the recipient of a 2020 MacArthur Fellowship, the 2020 Hans Christian Andersen Award, the 2018 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award and the 2018 Children’s Literature Legacy Award, and she was the 2018–2019 National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature. Her New York Times bestselling memoir, Brown Girl Dreaming, won the National Book Award, as well as the Coretta Scott King Award, a Newbery Honor and the NAACP Image Award. She also wrote the adult books Red at the Bone, a New York Times bestseller, and Another Brooklyn, a 2016 National Book Award finalist. Her dozens of books for young readers include Before the Ever After, New York Times bestsellers The Day You Begin and Harbor Me, Newbery Honor winners Feathers, Show Way and After Tupac and D Foster and the picture book Each Kindness, which won the Jane Addams Children’s Book Award.

About the Illustrator – Rafael López
Rafael López is an internationally recognized illustrator and artist. His illustrations bring diverse characters to children’s books and he is driven to produce and promote books that reflect and honor the lives of all young people. He lives and works in an industrial loft in downtown San Diego and at his home/studio in the colonial town of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.
THE DAY YOU BEGIN

Your journey is special and unique just like you. There will be ups and downs, twists and turns, but everyone will see you are brave, strong and fabulous! Follow the line to the end and write your response.

MY NAME

MY UNIQUE LUNCH

PLACE I WANT TO VISIT

MY FAVORITE BOOK

MY BRAVE MOMENT
**FRONT DESK**

Written by Kelly Yang

*Inside Out and Back Again* meets *Millicent Min, Girl Genius* in *Front Desk*, a timely, hopeful middle-grade novel with a contemporary Chinese twist. Written by Kelly Yang, this novel takes inspiration from the author’s life story, as her family immigrated to the United States from China when she was a young girl and managed a motel in California.

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**ABOUT THE AUTHOR – KELLY YANG**

Kelly Yang’s family immigrated to the United States from China when she was a young girl, and she grew up in California, in circumstances very similar to those of Mia Tang. She eventually left the motels and went to college at the age of 13 and is a graduate of University of California, Berkeley and Harvard Law School. Upon graduation, she gave up law to pursue her dream of writing and teaching kids writing. She is the founder of The Kelly Yang Project, a leading writing and debating program for children in Asia and the United States. She is also a columnist for the *South China Morning Post* and has been published in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *The Atlantic*. Kelly is the mother of three children and splits her time between Hong Kong and San Francisco. Please find her online at [kellyyang.com](http://kellyyang.com) and follow her on Twitter @kellyyanghk.

---

**GAME PIECES:**

- Green
- Gray
- Orange
- Teal
YOU MADE IT!
You own the building. Jump in the pool!

START

Someone’s opinion set you back.
GO BACK TO START.

Stay out of the pool. Skip a turn.

Share a burger.

You helped someone. Move forward 2 spaces.
The wake-up call worked. Move forward 2 spaces.
Deal is approved. Move forward 2 spaces.

GOAL FOR A HEART. Go back to start.

Mr. Yao changes the deal. Go back 5 spaces.

Roll the dice and move accordingly. You can use your own dice or cut out the template on the previous page and use it.

(Cut around the solid line and fold at the dotted lines.)

FIRST ONE IN THE POOL WINS THE GAME!

Deal is approved. Move forward 2 spaces.

Mr. Yao changes the deal. Go back 5 spaces.

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Stay out of the pool. Skip a turn.

Share a burger.
THE BOYS IN THE BACK ROW
Written by Mike Jung

Best friends Matt and Eric are hatching a plan for one big final adventure together before Eric moves away: during the marching band competition at a giant amusement park, they will sneak away to a nearby comics convention and meet their idol—a famous comic creator. Without cell phones. Or transportation. Or permission. This novel is an honest and witty celebration of band kids and male friendship.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – MIKE JUNG

Mike Jung is the author of Geeks, Girls and Secret Identities, Unidentified Suburban Object and The Boys in the Back Row, and contributed to the anthologies Dear Teen Me, Break These Rules, 59 Reasons to Write, (Don’t) Call Me Crazy and The Hero Next Door. His books have been honored by the Bank Street College of Education, Children's Book Council Reading Beyond List, Cooperative Children's Book Center, Georgia State Book Awards, Iowa Children's Choice Awards, Kansas State Reading Circle, National Parenting Publications Awards, Parents Choice Foundation and the Texas Bluebonnet Award. He is proud to be a founding member of the #WeNeedDiverseBooks team, and lives in Oakland, CA with his family.
CREATE YOUR OWN COMIC
Tell a story of an adventure two friends would take.
On the following pages, draw your own illustrations
and write your own text.

AN ADVENTURE IN

BY:
Gene understands stories—comic book stories, in particular. Big action. Bigger thrills. And the hero always wins. But Gene doesn’t get sports. As a kid, his friends called him “Stick” and every basketball game he played ended in pain. The men’s varsity team, the Dragons, is having a phenomenal season that’s been decades in the making. Once Gene gets to know these young all-stars, he realizes that their story is just as thrilling as anything he’s seen on a comic book page. What he doesn’t know yet is that this season is not only going to change the Dragons’ lives, but his own life as well.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – GENE LUEN YANG
Gene Luen Yang began drawing comics in the fifth grade and is the bestselling writer and artist behind American Born Chinese, Boxers & Saints, the Avatar: The Last Airbender comics and many other iconic works. He was the recipient of the 2016 MacArthur Fellowship and the 2016 National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature by the Library of Congress where he promoted Reading Without Walls, a platform that aims to excite young people about reading outside their comfort zones. After speaking out against the lack of diversity in the casting of the Avatar: The Last Airbender movie, Gene was asked to write the Avatar: The Last Airbender comics, which he does to this day, as well as writing Superman (with John Romita Jr., Klaus Janson and Howard Porter) for DC Comics. His latest graphic novel, Dragon Hoops, was released in March 2020.
Hundreds of women’s teams had been formed
Dragons varsity women’s and men’s teams win state championships
Women players can now run the full length of the court
Harlem Globetrotters play the Minneapolis Lakers
Mike Phelps takes over as varsity basketball coach
James Naismith invents a new sport