Bringing Light and Hope This Filipino American History Month

Against the continued tragedies and travails of the COVID-19 pandemic, we mark this October’s Filipino American History Month with a simple wish—‘Darating ang liwanag, or “Hope will come.” In this case, liwanag, or “light,” becomes a metaphor for pag-asa, or “hope.” The origins of Filipino American History Month start some 30 years ago with the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS). FANHS is a nationwide network of 30 chapters promoting awareness about the history of Filipinos in America. In early 1991, the FANHS trustees approved a resolution to establish and promote October as Filipino American History Month. FANHS chose October to commemorate the first-known landing of Filipinos in the Americas on Oct. 18, 1587. Filipinos were not Filipinos back then, but referred to as Indios Luzones or Luzon Indians. FANHS members persevered in shepherding legislation to gain California state and national recognition for this resolution. In 2009, the California State Legislature and more importantly, the U.S. Congress adopted resolutions declaring October Filipino American History Month. (translation in Filipino page 4, salin pahina 4)

Alice Walker in conversation with Dr. Sheryl Davis

Renowned writer Alice Walker and Dr. Sheryl Davis, Executive Director of San Francisco Human Rights Commission, discuss Sweet People Are Everywhere, Walker’s new illustrated children’s book celebrating community, humanity and globalism. This landmark program includes a reading of the book and conversation with two inspiring voices of hope and creativity. Q&A to follow.

Alice Walker is a distinguished author and activist who has written dozens of books, including novels, poems, essays, short stories and children’s books. She was the first African American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for fiction for her novel The Color Purple, which also won The National Book Award in 1983. More than fifteen million copies of her books have been sold, and her work has been translated into more than two dozen languages. As an activist, Walker focuses on inequality, poverty and injustice.

Take a Walk on the Wild Side of 1980s San Francisco

Remember zines? Cheap rent in the Mission? Reagan? Alternative Voices, featuring photographs by Jeanne M. Hansen and interviews conducted by celebrated author Jonah Raskin, takes viewers on a journey back to 1980s San Francisco. Immerse yourself in compelling firsthand accounts from those who participated in San Francisco’s charged cultural and political underground scene that helped shape the City’s identity as a center for art, activism and punk rock.

According to Hansen, “As a young woman living and working in the Mission, where I explored my own artistic, social, political and sexual identities—and redefined my identity—the punk era was revolutionary. Looking back at that time and place, it seems essential to me for every youth movement to push back the boundaries and aim to keep society honest. I hope this show, which provides voices and faces from the past, will help inspire others to find their own means of self-expression.”

“The images and words together are meant to form a whole greater than the individual parts,” Raskin says. “The alternative voices belong to a chorus that amplifies the cross currents of life in the 1980s, hearing them I feel I’m there.”

With a sense of beauty and power, the exhibition takes viewers on a walk on the wild side of a San Francisco on the cusp of the emerging HIV/AIDS crisis, reviving a unique time and place in the City’s history.

Alternative Voices – Oct. 9 – Jan. 23, 2022, Jewett Gallery, Main Library, Lower Level

Opening Reception and Book Release with Panel Discussion Moderated by Jonah Raskin – Oct. 9, 1 p.m., 50 Brady Street
Horror Without the Gore

If your idea of Halloween is staying in and watching a scary movie, here’s a selection of horror films to consider for the frightful night. But fear not, these flicks rely more on building suspense than gore.

### Dark Water

(2002, Kanopy)  
A family moves into a dilapidated apartment complex, where the water takes an evil form and permeates every surface. (Japanese with English subtitles)

**Let the Right One In** (2008, hoopl)

A bullied 12-year-old boy befriends a mysterious girl with a dark family secret. (Swedish with English subtitles)

All films are available through Kanopy or hoopla. Get the mobile app or stream online at sfil.org/evidios.

### The Awakening

(2012, Kanopy)  
A ghost hunter investigates the haunting of a boys’ boarding school in post-World War I England.

**Parasite** (2019, Kanopy)  
Greed and class discrimination threaten the relationship between a wealthy family and their destitute servants in this dark comedy thriller. (Korean with English subtitles)

### Halloween

(1978, hoopl)

A deranged, masked man terrorizes the residents of Haddonfield in Brian De Palma’s classic film that propelled the horror genre.
ON THE SAME PAGE  
September/October Selection:

The Undocumented Americans
by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio

If you like Karla Cornejo Villavicencio's *The Undocumented Americans,* you'll enjoy these richly descriptive ethnographies offering deeply moving accounts of undocumented immigrants' life stories.

Conditional Citizens: On Belonging in America
by Laila Lalami

A Pulitzer Prize finalist recounts her unlikely journey from Moroccan immigrant to U.S. citizen, using it as a starting point for her exploration of the rights, liberties and protections that are traditionally associated with American citizenship.

Once I Was You by Maria Hinojosa

Hinojosa is an award-winning journalist who has collaborated with the most respected networks and is known for bringing humanity to her reporting. In this beautifully-rendered memoir, she relates the history of U.S. immigration policy that has brought us to where we are today, as she shares her deeply personal story. Once I Was You is an urgent call to fellow Americans to open their eyes to the immigration crisis and understand that it affects us all.

Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen
by Jose Antonio Vargas

The journalist and immigration-rights activist presents a memoir relating how he was sent from the Philippines to the U.S. as a child, his discovery of his undocumented status as a teenager and his decision to reveal his immigration status publicly in 2011.

The Good Immigrant: 26 Writers Reflect on America by Nikesh Shukla (editor)

An urgent collection of essays by first- and second-generation immigrants, exploring what it’s like to be othered in an increasingly divided America.

Creating Family Archives

Join Margot Note, author of *Creating Family Archives: A Step-by-Step Guide for Saving Your Memories for Future Generations,* in a webinar where you can learn easy steps to organize and preserve preserve a lifetime of papers, photographs and mementos that tell the stories of your life. Learn tips and tricks professional archivists use to preserve materials, as well as ways to approach an overwhelming organizational project so that it's manageable.

Events

Book Club: Karla Cornejo Villavicencio's *The Undocumented Americans*

– Oct. 25, 7 p.m. Register: bit.ly/OTSPbkClbSeptOct21

Author Event: Karla Cornejo Villavicencio and Jonathan Blitzer in conversation

– Oct. 26, 6 p.m. Register: bit.ly/OTSPSeptOct21

Break a Reading Record

Join us to break a record with Jumpstart’s Read for the Record. This year’s book selection is *Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon,* written by Kat Zhang and illustrated by Charlene Chua. Together, you and San Francisco Public Library are joining millions of readers around the world to pledge and raise awareness about the critical importance of early literacy. Take part in the fun from wherever you are: at home, in a classroom, in your communities or virtually. For more information or to pledge, visit Jumpstart at jstart.org.

Jumpstart’s Read for the Record – Oct. 28

Keep Your Memories Safe

Join Margot Note, author of *Creating Family Archives: A Step-by-Step Guide for Saving Your Memories for Future Generations,* in a webinar where you can learn easy steps to organize and preserve preserve a lifetime of papers, photographs and mementos that tell the stories of your life. Learn tips and tricks professional archivists use to preserve materials, as well as ways to approach an overwhelming organizational project so that it's manageable.

Creating Family Archives with Margot Note – Oct. 20, 10 a.m.

Celebrating San Francisco Through Film

San Francisco Chronicle columnist Heather Knight and pop culture critic Peter Hartlaub, founders of the Total SF podcast, are celebrating San Francisco through film with the Total SF Film series in the Main Library’s Koret Auditorium. For every movie are located on the SFPL website. See them all and listen to their accompanying Total SF podcast episode for backstories and other commentary. Links to the podcast for each movie are located on the SFPL website.

Total SF Film Series, Thursdays at noon, Koret Auditorium

Sister Act (1992), PG – Oct. 7, 12 p.m.

When a nightclub singer is forced to take refuge from the mob in a convent, she ends up turning the convent choir into a soulful chorus complete with a Motown repertoire, until the sudden celebrity of the choir jeopardizes her identity. Director: Emile Ardolino

The Last Black Man in San Francisco (2019), R – Oct. 14, 12 p.m.

Jimmie Fails dreams of reclaiming the Victorian home his grandfather built in the heart of San Francisco. Joined on his quest by his best friend Mont, Jimmie searches for belonging in a rapidly changing city that seems to have left them behind. Director: Joe Talbot

Milk (2008), R – Oct. 21, 12 p.m.

The story of Harvey Milk and his struggles as an American gay activist who fought for gay rights and became California's first openly gay elected official. Director: Gus Van Zant

Bullitt (1968), PG – Oct. 26, 12 p.m.

The story of Harvey Milk and his struggles as an American gay activist who fought for gay rights and became California's first openly gay elected official. Director: Gus Van Zant

The Good Immigrant: 26 Writers Reflect on America by Nikesh Shukla (editor)

An urgent collection of essays by first- and second-generation immigrants, exploring what it’s like to be othered in an increasingly divided America.
Celebrate Filipino American History Month

Youth Programs

Tony Robles, Lakas and the Manilatown Fish
Take a tour with Lakas to San Francisco’s historic Manilatown with Tony Robles — “The People’s Poet” — award-winning author and social justice activist. For kids and their families.

Author: Tony Robles, Lakas and the Manilatown Fish — Oct. 1, 2 p.m.

Laurel Fantauzzo, My Heart Underwater
Drawing inspiration from her 2020 YA novel My Heart Underwater, Fantauzzo leads an interactive writing workshop where participants learn how to build a fictional character. Q&A follows. For ages 13 and older.

Author: Laurel Fantauzzo — Oct. 20, 6 p.m.

Tracy Badua and Brighton Rose in Conversation
Forthcoming middle-grade Filipina authors share their latest and upcoming projects, discuss cultural elements in their work and answer questions with a drawing demonstration. For ages 8 and older.

Presentation: Tracy Badua and Brighton Rose in Conversation — Oct. 8, 3 p.m.

The Journey of Being an Artist
Janine, a 2021 Youth Engaged in Library Leadership teen intern, explores the intersection of her Filipina identity and art in an original video incorporating historical archives and personal artifacts in a unique storytelling experience. For ages 12 and older.

Presentation: The Journey of Being an Artist — Oct. 15, 3 p.m.

Filipino American Center @ 25

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Filipino American Center (FAC) at San Francisco Public Library. The Center serves as the gateway to the Library’s material and digital resources on the Filipino experience in America. The collection is comprised of circulating and reference materials of popular interest, scholarly research and other unique items. It contains materials in English, Filipino and other languages from the Philippines. The Center sponsors a broad range of programs, events and exhibitions throughout the year, in collaboration with writers, scholars, artists, organizations and other members of the community.

The Center’s existence came about through the Library’s “Affinity Group” campaign in the 1990s. Groups came together to sponsor a special center in the new Main Library related to their interest. Local Filipino community leaders convened and led the fundraising efforts. The funding committee was headed by Tony Gualberto along with Polly Arzaga, Cip Ayalan, Jun Caba, Billy Camota, Flor Camota, Virgie Gualberto, Sharon Jones, Cris Kabasares, Ernie Llorente, Severo Lozano, Dennis Normandy and Loy Raymundo.

On April 18, 1996, the new Main Library opened and started a new chapter for library services in San Francisco and for its diverse community. Besides the Filipino American Center on the 3rd floor, there is the African American Center, the Chinese Center and the James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center.

In 1996-2006, followed by Mitchell Yangson (2008-2015) and the current librarian Lili Yangson (2017-present). The Center’s leadership has been strong and diverse, with over 25 years of service. Thank you to our board members and staff for their dedication and tireless work serving our Filipino community.

Oktubre – Buwan ng Pagdiwang ng Kasaysayan ng Pilipino Amerikano (Filipino American History Month) Translation from page 1

S a kabila ng mga pagsasabot at trahedya ng pandemya ng Covid 19, inong Oktubre — buan ng kasaysayan ng Pilipino Amerikano — ipinaaganduhina ni ang iba pang simpleng kahihilingan — sanay na darating ang liwanag. Sa kasong ito, ang liwanag ay massabing talinghaga sa pag-agp. Inasamsam na inang di magtatagala, ay mahahalad tayo sa liwanag mula sa kapit ng kahalaman.


Chef Reina Montenegro
Successful entrepreneur/chef
Reina Montenegro shares her
plant-based Filipino food journey.
Presentation: Chef Reina
Montenegro – Oct. 1, 12 p.m.

Barbara Jane Reyes, Jason Magabo Perez,
Pamela Santos and Charles Valle
Barbara Jane Reyes, author and poet, curates an evening of poetry
celebrating the Filipino American experience.
Performance: Filipino American Poetry Barbara Jane Reyes
+ Guests – Oct. 4, 7 p.m.

Healthy Filipino Food
SOMCAN (South of Market Community
Action Network) and a local Filipino
chef demonstrate how to prepare
a healthy and tasty Filipino dish.
Healthy Filipino Cooking with
SOMCAN – Oct. 6, 5:30 p.m.

The Hot Off the Press Literary Reading
Featuring Filipino and Filipino American authors: Gina Apostol,
Jhoina Lynn Cruz, George Deaso, Caroline Sy Hau, Mae Respicio,
Randy Ribay, Brian Ascalon Roley, Ricco Siasoco and Lara Stapleton.
Author: Hot Off the Press Filipino and FilAm Literary Reading
– Oct. 9, 5 p.m.

Shrimp Chips Bouquet
Diosa Blooms, a Filipinx-owned,
family-owned flower and plant
shop, demonstrates how to create
a beautiful floral bouquet.
Tutorial: Diosa Blooms Shrimp
Chips Bouquet – Oct. 13, 1 p.m.

Screening and Director Talk
A matinee screening of the Filipino sci-fi
film Alimuom, followed by a discussion
with director Keith Sicat.
Film: Alimuom, Screening and Discussion
with Filmmaker Keith Sicat – Oct. 16, 3 p.m.

Book Launch with Philippine American
Writers and Artists (PAWA)
Readings from the newly reprinted collection of poetry by
Joaquin Legaspi (1896-1975)
*Celebration: Book Release for Collected Verse of Joaquin
Legaspi – Oct. 21, 6 p.m., Latino/Hispanic Community Room
Main Library, Lower Level

The Case of the American War
in the Philippines at the
Turn of the 20th Century
MC Canlas, the SoMa Pilipinas community historian,
and Abraham Ignacio, Filipino American Center librarian
in conversation.
Dialogue: Unhiding an Imperial War in San Francisco – Oct. 23, 1 p.m.

Lydia Ortiz
SFPL celebrates the work of Lydia Ortiz, our Filipino
American History Artist for 2021.
Artist Spotlight with Lydia Ortiz – Oct. 28, 7 p.m.

Filipino American History
Month 2021 Reading List

For Youth

When Lola Visits
by Michelle Sterling
The summer visit of a young girl’s
grandmother from the Philippines jump-starts
a celebration of the smells, tastes and language of Filipino culture.
Kindergarten–2nd grade.

Blackbird Fly by
Erin Entrada Kelly
The 2015 debut novel
from Newbery Award-
winner Erin Entrada
Kelly is now available
as an audiobook! Filipina American
Apple Yengko finds solace in music
after she discovers her name on
the “Dog List”, a list that boys at her
middle school made of the “ugliest”
girls in her class. 4th–7th grade.

Patron Saints
of Nothing by Randy Ribay
A mysterious and
moving journey into
the Philippines’ war
on drugs and one family’s secrets.
A National Book Award finalist.
9th grade and up.

For Adult

The Revolution
According to Raymundo Mata
by Gina Apostol
A sight-impaired, avid reader traces
his Manila childhood and revolutionary activities at the side
of Filipino nationalist Jose Rizal
against a backdrop of Spanish colonial-era violence.

The Foley Artist
by Ricco Villanueva Siasoco
A powerful debut
collection opens
new regions of
American feeling and thought as it
interrogates intimacy, foreignness
and silence in an absurd world.

The Ruin of Everything
by Lara Stapleton
Tells tales of abandoned
children living
in adult bodies.
Event Calendar: October 2021

**Adults**

**1 Friday**
Chef Raina Montenegro 12–1 p.m.

**4 Monday**
A Celebration of Filipino American Poetry 7–8 p.m.

5, 19, 26 Tuesdays
ESL Convos Club 3–4 p.m.

**5 Tuesday**
Author: Laura E. Gomez, *Inventing Latinas: A New Story of American Racism* 7–8 p.m.

**6 Wednesday**
Healthy Filipino Cooking 5:30–6:30 p.m.
Author: Matthew Clark Davison *In Conversation with Michael Nava A partnership with Fabulous Books. 7–8 p.m.*

**7 Thursday**
*Total SF Film: Sister Act Main, Koret – Lower Level 12–2 p.m.*

**9 Saturday**
12–2 p.m.
Main, Koret – Lower Level.

Michael Nava Davison in Conversation with 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Healthy Filipino Cooking 6–7 p.m.
Author: Matthew Clark Davison *In Conversation with Michael Nava A partnership with Fabulous Books. 7–8 p.m.*

**11 Friday**
Author: Thomas Menlo and Michelle Gonzales in conversation: Big Family Main, Latinx Rooms – Lower Level 6–7 p.m.

**12 Tuesday**
*Total SF Film: The Last Black Man in San Francisco Main, Koret – Lower Level 12–2 p.m.*

**14 Thursday**
*Total SF Film: My Milk Main, Koret, Lower Level 12–2 p.m. *

**19 Tuesday**
ESL Convo Club 5, 19, 26 Tuesdays
American Poetry 5–6 p.m.

**23 Saturday**
*Total SF Film: An Ode to Us Main, Koret – Lower Level 6–7:30 p.m.*

**24 Sunday**
Intro to QR Codes 1–2 p.m.

**26 Tuesday**
*Total SF Film: The Murders That Made Us Main, Koret, Lower Level 6–7 p.m.*

**27 Wednesday**
My Heart Underwater
Author: Laurel Fantauzzo, 20 Wednesday

**28 Thursday**
Work it (Business, Finance) 4–5 p.m.

**Youth**

**Early Childhood/Family**

Sweet Stories Every Monday, 10–10:45 a.m.
Every Tuesday, 11–11:15 a.m. 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 11–11:15 a.m.
Cantonese/English 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 11–11:15 a.m. Mandarin/English
Every Thursday, 11–11:15 a.m. español/English

**Get to know San Francisco with SFPL’s Explorer Map**

Pick up your copy today at the Main Library or any library branch. Available in early October.

Then, visit each Library location to receive a special sticker that you can use to cover each corresponding gray bubble on the map. Collect all 29 stickers!

Discover what makes each library unique. Every location represents a special pocket of San Francisco with its own story.

Visit all 29 locations on our map—the Main Library, 27 branches plus our bookmobile!
Join our Brown Handler Residents at Lit Crawl!

Lit Crawl is back, and Friends is hosting an exciting event with the Brown Handler Residents and acclaimed author Daniel Handler. On Saturday, Oct. 23, from 5–6 p.m. at Manny’s on Valencia and 16th.

Featuring our current Brown Handler Writer Residents:

Shown left to right: Yalitza Ferreras, Kristin Keane, Justine Macauley, Ricco Villanueva Siasoco and Shelley Wong.

The year-long residency for five writers is made possible through the generous support of authors Lisa Brown and Daniel Handler. Writers are provided with free and accessible studio space in which to work, and a deeper connection to writers, librarians and our library community. Writers have free 24/7 access to the Friends’ office in Potrero Hill in a sun-filled writer’s studio overlooking Jackson Park.

Over the past three years, the Residency has created a rich community of writers across all backgrounds and genres, enriching the Friends’ offices (we are so spoiled!) and growing amazing talents. Reflecting the Library’s mission as a democratic, public and accessible institution, Friends is committed to supporting writers from a wide spectrum of ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation and genre. For more information and to find out more about the projects the residents are working on, visit friendssfpl.org/residency.

To learn more about the event, go to friendssfpl.org/events.

Member Event!

Join us on Oct. 27, 4–8 p.m. for our Member Welcome-Back Party and Book Sale! Enjoy an exclusive members-only book sale, hosted both inside and outside of the Donation Center, with music and outside entertainment galore! This event is family-friendly and will include health and safety measures as appropriate. For more information, visit friendssfpl.org/events.

Not a member? Renew online today at friendssfpl.org/donate!

Halloween Online Book Sale!

Celebrate this spooky season with Halloween-themed books! Starting Oct. 5, our online Friends Bookstore will feature a collection of spooktacular books for readers of all ages. Curbside pick-up is available exclusively for eBay purchases! Shop by visiting friendssfpl.org/shop.

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library

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.
October 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.

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Online version: sfpl.org/atl

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Youth Services TIP Line: (415) 557-4554
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San Francisco Public Library

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