



NEWS EXCHANGE

SPRING 2022

Throughout the COVID Winter, the Friends' Board KEPT BUSY with Active "Fun"-draining Events



Organizing 3 different sidewalk book sales

Planning & Playing at a Mah-jongg & Wine Event

THE POLAR EXPRESS... LIVE!!!
for children & their parents

AN EVENING WITH AUTHORS PLANNED

Because there are so many writers in Santa Barbara, we are privileged to be able to invite various authors who are willing to come speak to us about their books, inspirations, and processes. So our next big fund raising project will be called AN EVENING WITH AUTHORS and will occur on SUNDAY, MAY 22 - 5:00-7:00pm. Our goal is to have 4 or 5 different kinds of authors come together to talk with us by themselves and in a group under the guidance and enthusiasm of a beloved former member of our board, Steven Gilbar. Steven has just launched his latest book called "The Little Book of Montecito Writers" so he will be the perfect host to have us enjoy a wonderful evening with authors, participate in a silent auction, and indulge in sumptuous appetizers and wine – together, in person, at last! All for a good cause...the Santa Barbara Public Library!

see the ad inside on page 3 for more details.

Dear Library Friend,
Are you interested in helping out the Santa Barbara Public Library by participating more with their Friends?
We have a wonderful active board with many ideas for projects, actions, and publications (social media/print) where we can use your help!
Let us know if you'd like to be on a committee or on the board.
Friends of the SB Public Library
www.friends-sblibrary.org



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"The health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries." —Carl Sagan

Let's start with the good news. I am delighted to report that the SB City Council voted to allocate \$650,000 of American Recovery Act funds from the COVID-19 pandemic to open city libraries seven days a week. This should take place sometime in May. The bad news is this is one time funding, and the library is being asked to cut their budget again this year. On a positive note, the city council also devoted \$500,000 for digital needs and \$250,000 towards a garage to house our Library-on-the-Go Van. Additionally, the city workers, including library staff will receive an extra stipend for working through COVID. If you have a minute, you can email the mayor and city council and thank them for their support and encourage them to direct more funds to the library budget. If you have more than a minute you can also contact the County Board of Supervisors and ask them to allocate more funding to the SB Library which has the most disadvantaged constituents within the south coast and was the only SB County Library that was forced to reduce open hours due to budget cuts.

Your generous donations to the Friends of the Santa Barbara Public Library allow us to help support programs and book purchases. Your participation in our Polar Express event in December, and our March used book sale raised much needed funds. Please see the article in this newsletter about our May fund raising event, which includes presentations from five fabulous and diverse authors, a silent auction, and a wine and cheese reception. Hope to see you there!

If you don't already receive the library's digital weekly newsletter, go to their website and sign-up. It's an easy way to stay on top of all the programs and services the library has to offer.

Lastly, I want to thank all of our board members for their commitment. We are an all-volunteer board and I'm proud of all we accomplish and the creativity, time, and energy everyone contributes.

Yours, Barbara Hershberg

FINANCIAL REPORT

Our membership has been loyal in their support these past few pandemic years. Our fiscal year started July 2021 and the total income from membership renewals and new memberships thus far is \$22,271. We were able to have two in-person events which brought in \$2,885. Two "Pop up" book sales and First Thursday book sales raised \$2,728. The Year End Appeal totaled \$24,131.

We have paid three quarters of the Library's wish list of \$65,000, thanks to all your generous donations. Please continue to donate, large or small, all are appreciated and are important to the support of literacy in our community.

Here is a shout-out to our most generous donors from July, 2021–March, 15, 2022 including a listing of our most generous donors, from July, 2019–October, 2020, plus a hearty thanks to our growing number of business friends:

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!

Ann & Art Ayres
Anonymous
Leslie & Ashish Bhutani
John & Ann Brinker
Andrew Butcher - RCF
Renaissance Charitable
Foundation
Les & Zora Charles
Christine Cornett
Sallie & Kurt Coughlin
Gwen T. Dawson
Peter Ginsberg
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Barbara & Ken Hershberg
Dr. Janet Pickthorn
Timothy & Pamela Rodgers
Barbara Rubin Foundation
Leslie Meadowcroft Schipper
Lucia Snowhill
Terry & Pat Straehley
Joy Winer

& TO OUR BUSINESS FRIENDS

Allyn & Associates Real Estate & Lending
Andrew Rawls, the Crafter's Library
B2B Printers
Balanced Wealth Planning, Inc
The Book Den
Chaucer's Books
The Dance Network
Deckers Outdoor Corp.
Lafferty Design Plus
Maxwell Associates Enterprises
Patricia San Filippo, MA, LMFT
Santa Barbara Pet Hospital
TechEase



INSPIRED BY

Santa Barbara Museum of Art's wonderful exhibit "Through Vincent's Eyes, Van Gogh and His Sources," board member Danica Lukasiewicz put together this summary for our REVIEWS OF WHAT WE ARE "READING" (listening to and watching) series:

The Artist and Me

Written by Shane Peacock, Illustrated by Sophie Casson

Written about a young boy who bullied "An Artist," this book addresses many topics such as bullying, genius, art, passion, and the power of connection with one another as well as within a community. It does this in such a subtle way that parents and readers can stay shallow or dive as deep as is appropriate in the discussion around the values of this book. The colors are bright and simple; illustrated in a manner mirroring Van Gogh's style, this book is captivating. While it's rated for 4-6 year olds this book is appropriate for almost any age and addresses Van Gogh's life for what it really was; isolated, lonely, impoverished, and passionate.

Vincent and Theo: the Van Gogh Brothers

by Deborah Heiligman

This young adult, nonfiction book reads almost as if it was a novel. It shares the story of the Van Gogh brothers' lives from childhood to today. It shares the trials and tribulations these brothers endured and the everlasting love between them through the use of letters and narration by Heiligman. An accurate depiction of both the Van Gogh men's lives as well as honest discussions of mental health, the art scene of the time, and daily life, this book is not full of plot twists but stays true to its point and teaches a wider audience more about the famous brothers than most would know otherwise. The audio narration by Phil Fox of the audiobook is well done and the hardcover copy has reproduction of pictures of Van Gogh's work throughout. Note: Mental health issues and the difficulties of living with and supporting those with mental health issues, brothels, STDs, obsession, and other difficult content is in this book. They are all presented in a straightforward and factual manner.

Loving Vincent - the world's first fully painted film

by Dorota Kobiela and Hugh Welchman

Loving Vincent is a 2017 experimental animated biographical drama film about the life of the painter Vincent van Gogh, and, in particular, about the circumstances of his death. Using Van Gogh's paintings as a base, the film was shot first with actors, and then was literally painted on more than 63,000 frames using over 1,000 canvases to animate the story in his style. This was a very laborious and time-consuming process, taking over 4 years just to develop the technique, and then more than 2 years using teams of over 100 painters working at studios in the Polish cities of Gdansk, Wroclaw, and Athens to complete this powerful, unique, and beautiful film.

Join Us

FOR A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE...!

An Evening with Authors

A FUNDRAISER FOR THE SANTA BARBARA
CENTRAL PUBLIC LIBRARY BY THE
FRIENDS OF THE SB PUBLIC LIBRARY

Sunday, May 22nd

Faulkner Gallery, SB Central Library

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

\$50.00 per person

*LISTEN to an amazing group of 5 successful
diverse Authors whom we have invited to
SHARE STORIES of their stories:*

STEVEN GILBAR, Moderator

Author of Books on Authors

JEFFREY C. STEWART

*National Book Award & Pulitzer
prize-winning author of African
American Biographies*

MELODIE JOHNSON HOWE

Mystery writer

ANDY WARNER

Nonfiction comics author/cartoonist

MARY HERSHEY PENNY

Author, middle grade children's novels

CHERI STEINKELLNER

Award winning TV/Film Writer

the evening also includes a:

SILENT AUCTION

of local art and vintage books,

**SUMPTUOUS WINE & APPETIZER
RECEPTION**

BOOK SIGNING

*The writers will be available to sign copies
of their books that will be for sale.*

Make your reservation now on our website:

<https://friends-sblibrary.org/>




WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

Our 2022 Summer Programs Need Your Support!

Summer Programming at the Santa Barbara Public Library will include a full schedule of fun and educational events at Central Library and Eastside Library

- Library Lab featuring hands on learning opportunities with science, engineering, and coding drop activities to fit families busy schedule
- Outdoor events throughout the community in conjunction with the Library on the Go Van
- Storytimes in parks and in the libraries
- Cooking, art, maker, and robotics classes
- SBPL will also provide camp experiences in partnership with United Way, SB Unified, and other more!

NOTE: The Santa Barbara Public Library will also distribute craft and activity kits at Foodbank youth summer meal sites.



Please donate online by going to:
www.friends-sblibrary.org
Cut out or copy the coupon below,
write a check, and mail to:
Friends of the Santa Barbara Public Library
P.O. BOX 1019, SB 93102



HERE IS MY DONATION TO THE SANTA BARBARA PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2022

Enclosed is a gift for: \$25 (book prizes) \$50 (10 arts/crafts kits) \$200 (materials)
 \$300 (summer camp experience) Other - \$ _____ . _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you for your gift!
Please make checks out to **Friends of the Santa Barbara Public Library**
Mail this form to: P.O. Box 1019, Santa Barbara, CA 93102
OR DONATE online: www.friends-sblibrary.org

