

Thanks to All Who Made Our First “Trivia Night” a Success!

While this was our first event of this type, based on the energy and turnout, we think it will become an annual event. Thirty-eight book loving participants attended with an impressive knowledge of all things literary. Categories included: American Literature, Author Trivia, Books Made into Movies, Book Trivia, Children’s Books, Classic Literature, and First Lines. Refreshments and libations were available throughout the evening. **Two teams, Maravilla Marvels and Gemma and the Jests, tied for first place.** Prizes included gift cards to Chaucer’s Books, a library tote with a print of a Sally Hamilton painting, and bottles of wine. Many thanks to all of the people who helped support programs and book purchases at the Santa Barbara Library by attending this fundraiser.



The Eastside Branch of the Santa Barbara Library

We are looking for a community member or two that would like to join our board of the Santa Barbara Friends of the Library to better represent the needs of the Eastside community. We plan to start alternating our board meetings between the Faulkner Gallery at the Central branch and the Martin Luther King Jr. room at the Eastside branch.



I’ve had the pleasure of spending time at this smaller branch since I started tutoring students through the Orton Gillingham program. I love that students can walk over from Franklin and Adelante Schools and for others that attend different schools, plus there is free parking for their families in the back parking lot.

I look forward to walking in every Wednesday to see the latest art project on the walls, to see Smith the dog listening to children read, and to see adult patrons receiving help with their resumes, job searches, etc. Teens have stocked a vending machine in the lobby as a way to raise revenue, there’s a “take what you need, leave what you can” bin and you can even buy MTD bus tickets from a machine. Depending on the time of the year, you will see people lined up for free tax filing assistance or to apply for jobs at local businesses. A couple of weeks ago there was a line out to the door to apply for a position at Starbucks.

The Eastside Library is a true community hub. It’s also open on Monday when the Central Branch is closed. The staff is always welcoming and there’s a peaceful outside patio for activities or just relaxing. Venture over to the Eastside branch and experience a special library.

— Barbara Cronin Hershberg, Board President

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President's Message

I was chatting with a couple of fellow library supporters and the idea of the investment in people's futures that libraries provide came up in our conversation. According to the Early Literacy Foundation, illiteracy and crime are connected. The Department of Justice states, "The link between academic failure and delinquency, violence, and crime is welded to reading failure.

Over 70% of inmates in America's prisons cannot read above a fourth-grade level."

To help support a love of books and reading, the library offers Wiggly Storytime, Reading with Therapy Dogs, Job Help, a Career Online High School, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, Adult Literacy Tutoring, and the Orton-Gilliam Reading program for 1st - 4th grade students that can benefit from explicit 1-1 instruction.

Additionally, the library continues to support teens in the community. Teens may join the Teen Advisory Board, sign-up for volunteer opportunities, and participate in the Steam Library Lab and Anime + Manga Club to name a few programs. It's important to have free, positive, interesting opportunities available to this vulnerable age group. All teens are not involved in sports and many may need a way to connect with other like-minded people in a safe environment and to have the librarians as role models.

Your membership in the Friends of the Library helps support programs and the purchase of books for which the city doesn't allocate money. Most of the programs the library offers are dependent on grants the librarians write. Each year the library budget is cut, and as there becomes fewer and fewer places to cut, it will start affecting book acquisitions.

We appreciate your support of this valuable community institution. We also appreciate you communicating to the City Council about how strongly you feel the library should be funded. Even if you are not a constituent of the City Council, you can still advocate for all of those that benefit from the services the library offers.

Yours,
Barbara Cronin Hershberg

Used Books Sale at Voice Gallery Supports the Library

Kerry Methner and Mark Whitehurst of Voice Magazine are graciously allowing the Friends of the Library to sell gently used books in front of the Voice Gallery at La Cumbre Plaza.

If you have any book donations, please contact us at contact2@friends-sblibrary.org and we will make arrangements to meet you at La Cumbre Plaza in front of the Voice Magazine/ Gallery. We cannot accept encyclopedias, DVD's or magazines. Please do not just drop them off at the Gallery without having one of our Friends meet you. Thank you for helping us with this fundraising activity!



Financial Report

Thanks to your generous support, since our last newsletter, November 2022, we have been able to make our contributions to the Library's wish list of \$65,000. Donations to Friends of the Library can be broken down into the following categories with the amounts received: Membership Renewals: \$13,548; New Members: \$395; Events (Book Sales, Mah Jongg): \$2,643; Year-End Appeal: \$25,452; and General Donations: \$6,525.



Our membership hovers around 675 and continues to grow! We appreciate ALL donations, large or small. It all adds up to support literacy in our community. A big THANK YOU to our most generous donors, from November, 2022 through March, 2023.

Thanks to Our Most Generous Donors

Leslie & Ashish Bhutani
Celia Blanchet
Ann Brinker
Les & Zora Charles
Mary Janet & Andrew Cooper
Christine Cornett
Sally and Curt Coughlin
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Maryan Schall
Leslie Meadowcroft Schipper
Lucia Snowhill
Terry & Pat Straehley
Anne Smith Towbes
Dr. Shirley & Linda Tucker

Thanks to Our Business Friends

Please look at these names and give them your business! They too are supporting literacy in Santa Barbara.

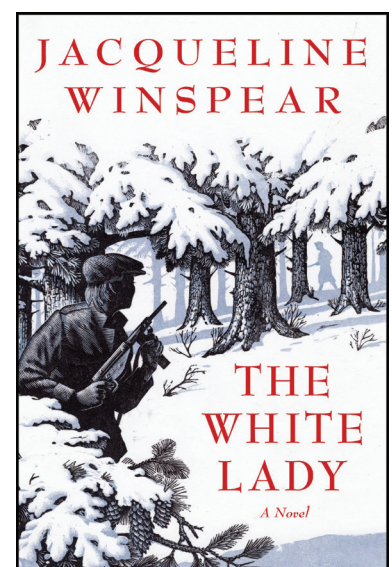
Balanced Wealth Planning Inc.
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Book Review:

The White Lady, by Jacqueline Winspear

I first met Jacqueline Winspear when she attended Bouchercon,* the World Mystery Convention, held in Las Vegas, Nevada, in 2003. Winspear was introducing her first novel, *Maisie Dobbs*, and after listening to her panel talk, I was hooked as a fan. I have read and loved all of her 20 books. Her latest historical mystery/thriller brings a new heroine to life, Elinor White, and the character and book do not disappoint. Set in 1947 post-war Britain, Elinor becomes involved in the Mackie crime family with its many secrets, but Elinor has secrets of her own that we learn about as the mystery unfolds. Winspear is a master storyteller who writes with a great "sense of place."

**Bouchercon is named after the "distinguished mystery fiction critic, editor and author, Anthony Boucher, and it is held annually in cities across the United States, as well as in Toronto and the U.K." Jacqueline Winspear will be one of the Guests of Honor at the upcoming Bouchercon, which will be held in San Diego (August 30 - September 3, 2023). I have attended four Western Bouchercon's (in 1997, 2003, 2014, and virtually in 2020), and if you are a mystery fan, this is a convention you can't miss.*



Another book I am looking forward to reading is: *But Have You Read the Book? 52 Literary Gems That Inspired Our Favorite Films* by Kristen Lopez for Turner Classic Movies.

— Marsha Barr, Recording Secretary and Board Member



The Library's 2023 Summer Programs Need Your Support

Read and Shine!

"Read and Shine" is the theme for the Santa Barbara Public Library's Summer Reading Program. Last year 1,500 children and 200 teens reached the goals they set. The past few years due to the pandemic, the library was not able to offer any prizes. This year the Friends have taken on this mission of soliciting donations, (and making some of their own contributions), and are grateful for all of the local businesses that have donated coupons and/or passes. **We would like to give a special shout-out to the SB Museum of Art** (1,500 family passes), **SB Maritime Museum** (1,500 passes), **Blenders, Metro Theatres, and McDonald's**. Our list of donors is too long to print here, but everyone will be recognized in the marketing of this program. **There's still time to donate prizes!** If you're a business and would like to donate a prize, contact us at: contact2@friends-sblibrary.com.



The Summer Reading kick-off will be held at Alameda Park on Saturday, June 10th. The Friends will have a table where they will hand out a free book to each participant as well as a journal to track their progress.

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

- Library Lab featuring hands on learning opportunities with science, engineering, and coding drop-in activities to fit families' busy schedules
- 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, Santa Barbara Unified School District, and others! The Library will also distribute craft and activity kits at Foodbank youth summer meal sites.



Here is my donation to the Santa Barbara Public Library's Summer Programs!

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 at friends-sblibrary.org