

DATE: July 18, 2022

TO: Library Board of Trustees

FROM: Tracy Gray, Library Director
Laura Burch, Analyst

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

AUTHOR SERIES

The Library has launched a new [Online Author Series](#) (OAS). Every month, the Library will host two to four virtual events with best-selling authors and renowned thought leaders covering a wide range of topics. People can attend the events live for an opportunity to ask the authors questions. If people cannot make it to the live-stream, they can watch the recordings for any of the OAS events through the Library [website](#).

The first event in the series that took place was an evening with *New York Times* best-selling author Alka Joshi on Thursday, July 7. The author discussed her novel, [The Henna Artist](#). Alka shared her inspirations for her work, how her mother's life story has influenced her writing, and what it has been like working on creating a Netflix series based on her books. Twenty (20) viewers attended the virtual event.

For more information and to browse all upcoming Online Author Series events, visit the Library [website](#). This program is made possible by the generous support of the [Friends of the Mountain View Library](#).

RENT STABILIZATION SUMMER KICK-OFF

Justin Pham, Youth Services Librarian, presented a storytime at the City's Rent Stabilization Program and Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC) [Summer Kick-Off Celebration](#) on June 11, 2022 in Rengstorff Park.

Over 210 community members came through the event. One of the goals of the event was to make customers a little more comfortable reaching out for eviction support or rental relief services in the future.



On Thursdays, the Library has been hosting staff from the City's Community Development Department for an Eviction Help Center. The Help Center started in September 2021 and has been providing information to community members on direct financial assistance, mediation, affordable housing, unhoused resources, and other social services. The Library will continue to provide the space for this community program to continue. More information is available at MountainView.gov/COVID19HousingRelief.

HUMAN LIBRARY

The Library hosted their first [Human Library](#) event on Saturday, July 9. The Human Library is a unique and fulfilling program that has been in hosted in libraries all across the world.

During this event, community members had the opportunity to check out human "books" to "read" in one-on-one conversations. Each book in the Human Library is a real person who is available to answer questions about their unique perspective and life experiences. Difficult questions are encouraged and appreciated.

The Human Library aims to ignite dialogue and understanding between people by creating a safe space to have conversations that challenge society's stereotypes and prejudices. Every person has a story to tell. Unjudge someone. Meet the Books:

- Transgender
- Autistic
- Woman in Tech
- Infertility

This program was made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Mountain View Library.

Learn more about the origins of the Human Library organization at <https://humanlibrary.org/>.



SUMMER LUNCH

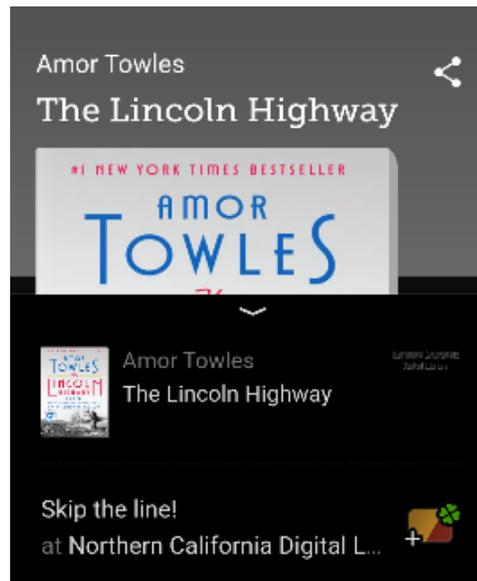
The Library received grant funding from the California State Library for the Summer 2022 Lunch at the Library program. Librarians from Youth and Outreach are working with Mountain View Whisman School District to provide free books during the school district's free lunch program. Book distribution is happening at Castro/Mistral Schools' after-school program during the summer session. The Library is also giving away books at Rengstorff Park, which is an open, free lunch site.



LUCKY DAY E-BOOKS

The Library has launched a Lucky Day Collection of popular e-books and e-audiobooks on Libby/OverDrive. When browsing the collection, users will see a "skip-the-line" option with a green shamrock to denote these special copies.

Similar to the Friends of the Library collection of books or DVDs, these e-books will not be available for holds and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Checkout will be for seven days, and one Lucky Day title can be checked-out at a time.



STAFF DAY

The Library closed to the public on Thursday, June 23, for a staff development day. Staff from all divisions gathered together in-person for the first time since 2019 to engage in team-building and professional development activities. The Library has welcomed many new staff members over the last three years, and this provided an opportunity for everyone to get better acquainted. Zakiyah Khalfani provided a training session for staff on resilience and wellness in the workplace. In the afternoon, the Library joined staff from the other City departments for the City Manager's Celebration.

PROGRAMS

Past Program Highlights

Artist and teacher, Karen Luk, presented a fun, interactive workshop on basic drawing techniques. Twenty-five (25) people attended the program and learned how to approach various

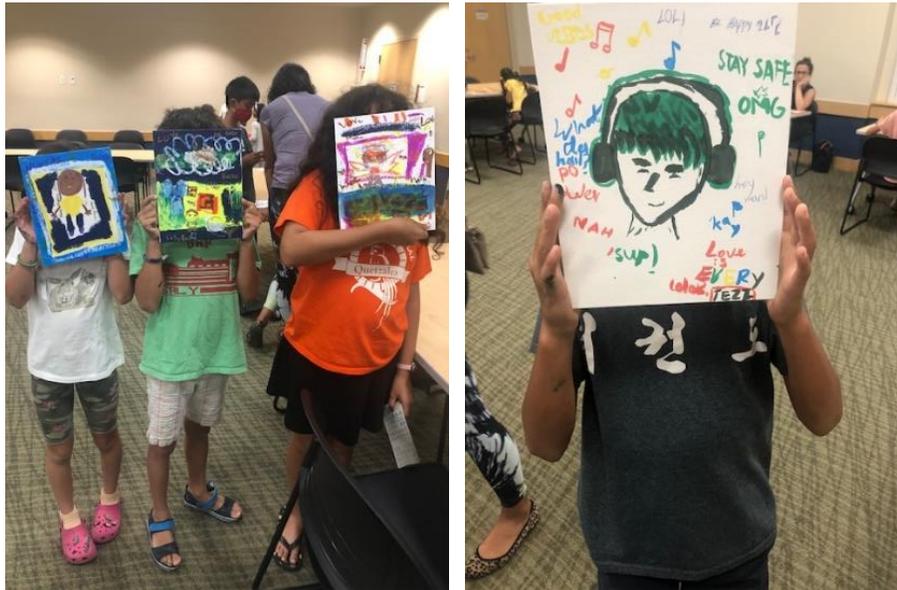
drawing subjects and level-up their skills. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



A group of 29 kids came out to Pioneer Park for Dino Dig. This program, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library, was geared toward ages eight through 12 that love dinosaurs. Attendees learned about where different types of dinosaurs lived, what they ate, and more before doing some digging.



Youth librarian, Alex, shared the work of Jean-Michel Basquiat with a group of 30 art lovers at the first Art Explorers program. The participants learned about the art and life of the artists and then created their own masterpiece using the same style. The Friends of the Mountain View Library sponsored this program for kids.



Other Past Programs

- *Adults*
 - Virtual Adult Crafts: Jungle-in-a-Jar, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Public Library—Attendance: 38
 - Author Talk with Vanessa Hua, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 22
 - Jam Making: Yes, You Can!—Attendance: 22
 - Zero-Waste Chef, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 8
 - Virtual ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 10

- *Youth*
 - Introduction to 3D Printing for Kids—Attendance: 16
 - Family Storytime I—Attendance: 120
 - Switch It Up Saturday I—Attendance: 20
 - Outdoor Bilingual Storytime I—Attendance: 202
 - ZunZun, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 72
 - Family Storytime II—Attendance: 84
 - Switch It Up Saturday II—Attendance: 15

Upcoming Programs

- Wednesday, July 20—[Traveling Lantern Theater: Camp Ocean, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Thursday, July 21—[Origami Program](#)
- Thursday, July 21—[The Good Kings: Absolute Power in Ancient, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Monday, July 25—[Teen Hand Lettering: Create a “Fauxligraphy” Quote](#)
- Wednesday, July 27—[Art Explorers](#)
- Wednesday, July 27—[Sing and Play Along Ukulele Jam, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Thursday, July 28—[LEGO Engineering Challenge](#)
- Thursday, July 28—[Family Craft: Nature Is An Art, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Saturday, July 30—[Bluegrass Concert with The Goat Hill Girls, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Monday, August 1—[Onye Onyemaechi: Village Rhythms](#)

- Wednesday, August 3—[Author Talk with Historian and Pulitzer Prize Winner, Dr. Marcia Chatelain, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Wednesday, August 3—[What is Magic? with Brian Scott](#)
- Thursday, August 4—[Astronaut Boot Camp, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Monday, August 8—[“Monday” Monday: Make a Moon Phase Calculator](#)
- Tuesday, August 9—[Long Bright River: Author Talk with Liz Moore, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)

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