

**DATE:** June 16, 2025

**TO:** Board of Library Trustees

**FROM:** Tracy Gray, Library Director  
Katie Hom, Librarian

**SUBJECT:** **Library Director's Report**

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Library will be closed on Thursday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth.

### **NEW CATALOG**

Residents will have access to the Library's new catalog, [Vega Discover](#), starting Monday, June 16. The Library will phase out the current catalog on Monday, June 30. This change will have no impact on current customer accounts.

Vega Discover will offer an updated look and a fresh, easy experience while searching for library materials. Once customers are logged in with their library card number and PIN, they will have access to their bookmarked materials and saved catalog searches in addition to their general account information.

### **LIBRARY INTERNS**

The Library welcomed three summer interns. The interns will be working with staff on developing ideas for maker and DIY programs, creating promotional materials for programs and services, and conducting inventory of the Library's special collections.

### **SUMMER READING BEGINS**

Summer Reading began on Sunday, June 1. Residents are encouraged to [register](#) everyone in their family to read, discover, and earn rewards throughout the summer.

Staff have organized a strong lineup of events to kick off the summer this month. All events are generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.

- [Monday, June 9](#): Residents of all ages are invited to enjoy lawn games and treats in Pioneer Park along with featured musical guests, the Rhythm Builders.
- [Saturday, June 14](#): In the Library's first Puzzle Palooza, teams will race against each other to complete the same puzzle in a friendly, fast-paced competition.
- [Monday, June 16](#): Children will see unusual, wondrous live animals while learning to better understand the tropical rainforest and its plants, wildlife and people in this program presented by Wildmind.
- [Wednesdays, June 11, 18 & 25](#): Children ages 9-12 will enhance their acting abilities in this three-part Stage Skills Studio program, where they will play acting games, learn stage terminology, get comfortable making big acting choices, and prepare a monologue for auditions.
- [Wednesdays, June 11 & 25](#): Children can travel the world through art by making colorful, hands-on projects inspired by different countries and cultures.
- [Fridays, June 13, 20 & 27](#): Continuing on the success from last year, STEAM Friday will feature a variety of self-directed projects in science, technology, engineering, art and math, perfect for curious young minds who love to experiment and play.
- [Saturday, June 28](#): People of all ages will enjoy the Super You! Circus Comedy show full of hilarious magic tricks, silly sound effects, mime, and juggling. Positive messaging about imagination, patience, and making mistakes are woven throughout the show.

## **OUTREACH EVENTS**

The Library participated in the Summer Community Kick-Off at Rengstorff Park on May 17. Staff spoke to 162 visitors and issued eight library cards. Attendees enjoyed spinning the prize wheel for free swag including cutting boards, solar powered charging banks, planters, fidget toys, and more.

The Library also had a resource table at the State of the City event on May 21. Staff interacted with 14 visitors and shared general information about the Library's programs and services, including the Summer Reading Program, Digital Library resources, History Center, Friends of the Mountain View Library book sales and donation details, and more. Visitors were particularly interested in the Recycled Blocks craft packets staff brought, which include shapes cut from board book pages that can be assembled into a freeform structure. These crafts provide a fun activity for children by repurposing materials to reduce waste and promote sustainability.



## **KUDOS CORNER**

The Library received this kind comment about the security team.

*I would like to thank the security staff in the library. I typically go to the 2nd floor. So I can only comment on the security staff on the 2nd floor.*

*The security staff on the 2nd floor really do their job well e.g. asking people to put their feet down or not to eat or move away stuff when patrons leave their things and disappear for hours, etc.*

*Compared to the old days where security staff were not that available every hour, these days the library is much quieter and more like a true library where people can read in quiet.*

*Thank you to all the hardworking security staff!*

## **PROGRAMS**

### **Past Program Highlights**

Fifty-four attendees enjoyed a fascinating talk about the rich multicultural history of San Jose Japantown, one of three remaining Japantowns in the nation, presented by local artist, photographer, and author of [San Jose Japantown: A Journey](#), Curt Fukuda. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Fourteen participants got a close-up look at succulents with Master Gardener Laura Westley, who discussed the varieties of succulents and how to care for them. Attendees were engaged and asked many questions throughout the program. Westley also brought some succulents and trimmed them in a demonstration. Attendees took the trimmings home so they could plant them.



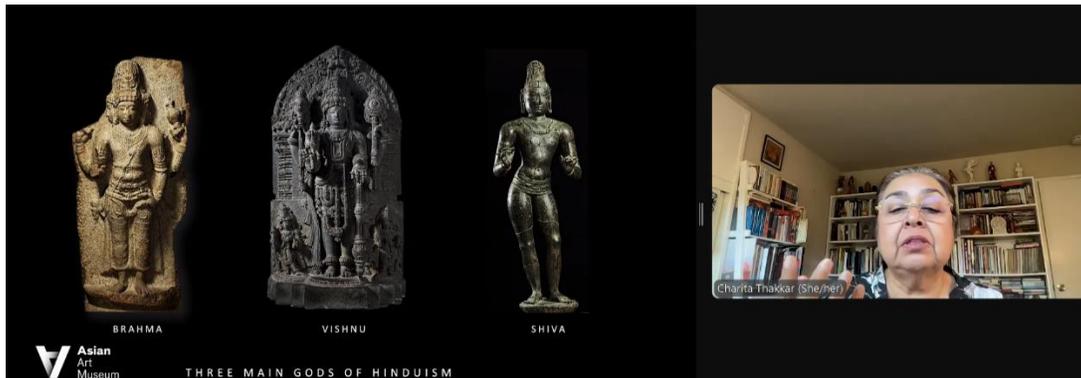
In celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, 29 residents attended a special two-part local history talk highlighting the longstanding presence and contributions of Filipino communities in the Bay Area presented by Mel Orpilla and Robert V. Ragsac, Sr. from the Filipino American National Historical Society. Orpilla and Ragsac provided engaging and educational presentations on different facets of local Filipino American history. Customers showed strong vocal appreciation during the program and shared positive feedback at the Customer Service desk. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Youth librarians returned to Deer Hollow Farm to provide a special offsite storytime. Forty-seven children and guardians listened to farm-themed books, songs, and rhymes, then had the opportunity to meet some of the farm animals up close.



Charita Thakkar gave a talk on the depictions of Hindu deities from the Asian Art Museum's collection to 45 deeply engaged participants during the Darshan: The Act of "Seeing" in Hindu Art program. Attendees provided positive comments during the question and answer session, with multiple people asking if the Library could do similar programs in the future. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



### Other Past Programs

- Friday, May 2—Pages and Paws Reading Buddy—Attendance: 34
- Saturday, May 3—Paint and Plant, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 54
- Sunday, May 4—Palmita Park & The Minton Legacy—Attendance: 39
- Monday, May 5—Read & Repeat—Attendance: 48
- Tuesday, May 6—Spring Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 275
- Tuesday, May 6—Maximize Your Retirement Income: Optimizing Tax-Efficient Withdrawals from Your Retirement Portfolio—Attendance: 19
- Tuesday, May 6—Field Trip: Star Session Foothill College Observatory—Attendance: 200
- Wednesday, May 7—Baby Storytime—Attendance: 121
- Wednesday, May 7—How to Use Anxiety to Thrive with Dr. David H. Rosmarin, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 30
- Wednesday, May 7—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 29
- Wednesday, May 7—San Jose Japantown: A Journey, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 54
- Thursday, May 8—Evening Sensory Storytime—Attendance: 13
- Saturday, May 10—Easy to Grow Succulents!—Attendance: 14
- Tuesday, May 13—Spring Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 282
- Tuesday, May 13—Pinoy Roots: A Local History of Filipinos in the Bay Area, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 29
- Wednesday, May 14—Baby Storytime—Attendance: 111
- Wednesday, May 14—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 45
- Wednesday, May 14—On Writing a Brilliant, Dark, and Diabolical Thriller with Author Liann Zhang, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 18
- Wednesday, May 14—Ukulele Jam: Sing and Play Along, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 19
- Wednesday, May 14—Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English—Attendance: 50

- Thursday, May 15—Artful Abilities, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 5
- Thursday, May 15—Let's Create, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 42
- Thursday, May 15—Evening Sensory Storytime—Attendance: 12
- Friday, May 16—Doodle & Draw—Attendance: 15
- Saturday, May 17—Drop-in Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 9
- Saturday, May 17—Composting Basics Workshop—Attendance: 7
- Tuesday, May 20—Spring Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 272
- Tuesday, May 20—Sewing with FabMo: Flower Brooches, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 13
- Wednesday, May 21—How Judy Blume Rewrote Childhood for All of Us with Author Rachelle Bergstein, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 7
- Wednesday, May 21—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 33
- Friday, May 23—Deer Hollow Storytime—Attendance: 47
- Saturday, May 24—Silicon Valley Chess Kids—Attendance: 20
- Saturday, May 24—FivePlay Jazz Quintet Concert, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 70
- Tuesday, May 27—Darshan: The Act of “Seeing” in Hindu Art, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 45
- Wednesday, May 28—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 28
- Wednesday, May 28—Learn Chinese Calligraphy, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 16
- Saturday, May 31—Guzheng Concert with Winnie Wong, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 54

### **Upcoming Programs**

- Interactive Storytelling
  - [Thursdays, July 3, 10, 17 & 24](#)—Bring a classic fairy tale to life by acting out the characters. Practice foundational theater skills using facial expressions, body language, and tone to convey different characters and emotions. For ages 6-8.
- Lullaby Storytime
  - [Mondays, July 7, 14 & 21](#)—Infants and new toddlers are welcome to join us at this musical storytime with books, baby bounces, and dancing.
- Magical Bridge Storytime
  - [Thursdays, July 10 & 24](#)—Stop by the bookmobile for stories, songs, and rhymes at the Magical Bridge Playground in the heart of Rengstorff Park.
- Art Around the World

- [Wednesdays, July 9 & 23](#)—Children can travel the world through art by dropping into this program each week to make colorful, hands-on projects inspired by different countries and cultures. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- STEAM Fridays
  - [Fridays, July 11, 18 & 25](#)—Join us for hands-on activities that spark curiosity and creativity in children. Each week will feature a variety of self-directed projects in science, technology, engineering, art, and math. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- Teen Dungeons and Dragons
  - [Monday, July 14](#)—Teens will embark on a journey with fellow adventurers while playing a one-shot Dungeons and Dragons campaign.
- Mike The Magician's Magic Show
  - [Wednesday, July 16](#)—Magician Mike Della Penna's magical performance in Pioneer Park will entertain kids and adults from start to finish. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- Cunamacué
  - [Thursday, July 24](#)—Discover the music, history, and culture of Peru's African heritage in this live musical performance by Cunamacué. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- Amplify: The Tortured Poets Workshop
  - [Saturday, July 26](#)—Explore the poetics of pop songs in this workshop with local Youth Poet Laureate, Sierra Elman. Analyze the lyrics of your favorite songs, write your own poetry, and share your work. This event is part of [Amplify: Teen Voices](#), a program for teens who want to share their interests and passions with an audience.
- Teddy Bear Tea Party
  - [Monday, July 28](#)—Children are invited to bring their favorite teddy or stuffed animal and enjoy a cozy picnic and storytime in Bubb Park.
- End of Summer Dance Party
  - [Thursday, July 31](#)—Celebrate the end of summer with an outdoor dance party and frozen treats. The Library DJ will play both new and old hit songs to get everyone moving and shaking.
- Online Author Series, generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
  - [Tuesday, July 8](#)—Join author and illustrator Raúl The Third as he discusses his book, [¡Vamos! Let's Go Read!](#).
  - [Thursday, July 17](#)—Explore the intricate world of [Legend](#) with Marie Lu as she encourages readers to look beyond the surface and reveal hidden secrets.
  - [Wednesday, July 23](#)—You're invited to join us online with award-winning author Rex Ogle as he talks about his struggles to navigate sixth grade as written about in his book, [Free Lunch](#).

- [Thursday, July 31](#)—You're invited to a fascinating conversation with neurologist and author Pria Anand to chat about her new book, [The Electric Mind: A Neurologist on the Strangeness and Wonder of Our Brains](#) (forthcoming June 10, 2025).

For more upcoming events, view the [Mountain View Public Library's events calendar](#).