

DATE: October 16, 2023

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Tracy Gray, Library Director
Katie Hom, Librarian

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

STAFF UPDATES

- Library Manager Laura Shea-Clark retired after working for the City for the past 17 years.
- The Lead Security Services Guard job description has been finalized and should be posted this month.
- The Library Manager and Senior Librarian positions are currently in recruitment.
- We have ongoing recruitments for hourly positions—Building Attendants and Pages.

SUMMARY OF SCI-FI SEPTEMBER

Over 280 people celebrated Sci-Fi September with the Library by attending themed in-person and virtual events. Our most popular Sci-Fi September programs included a workshop where children designed their own planets with provided crafting supplies, a concert performed by harpist Aysha Gomez-Kureishi that featured selections from popular science fiction and fantasy works, a look back at computer history with Computer History Museum founder Len Shustek, and a vibrant discussion about the preservation of video games from Video Game History Foundation Director Frank Cifaldi.

SPANISH LANGUAGE CIVIC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Library welcomed 18 participants from the Spanish Language Civic Leadership Academy on October 12. They learned about the Library's relationship with City government and were encouraged to join the Board of Library Trustees and the Friends of the Mountain View Library. Staff informed them of youth and adult programs, services, and collections available both in-person and digitally. Participants enjoyed a tour, which included a behind-the-scenes look at the automatic returns machine inside the Customer Services area. The Library gave all

participants a free mug printed with the Spanish translation of the Library's mission as well as a bag of promotional material.



HALLOWEEN

Halloween treating for kids will take place in the Library during open hours on Tuesday, October 31, from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. All three service desks plus the Friends' Lobby Shop will have nonedible goodies for kids to pick up, including a coloring book, crayons, bookmark, pencil, glow bracelet, and more.

CELEBRATE MOUNTAIN VIEW HISTORY

The Library will celebrate the 121st anniversary of the City of Mountain View's incorporation on [Tuesday, November 7](#), with a special talk by local history book author Nick Perry. Perry will share highlights from his decades of research on the history of Mountain View using photos and stories that trace the City's constant growth and evolution throughout the decades. Perry has served on the Board of Directors of the Mountain View Historical Association since 2011 and has authored two books about the history of Mountain View.

OPIOID ADDICTION PREVENTION WORKSHOP

Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara's Behavioral Health Services Department and the Mountain View Library, invites the community to a Narcan training workshop on Wednesday, November 8. This is an opportunity for the community to learn more about the opioid crisis and the dangers of fentanyl and other opioids. The workshop would also include training in the use of Naloxone (commonly known as Narcan), a life-saving medication used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Participants will receive a free Narcan kit after the presentation while supplies last.

UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK

The Library is planning three events in recognition of United Against Hate Week from November 12 to November 18, 2023. Teens will be invited to make friendship bracelets in the Teen Zone on Tuesday, November 14. A film screening of the documentaries *Not Your Model Minority* and *The Issue of Mr. O'Dell*, each of which promote antiracism and inclusivity, will take place on Saturday, November 18. There are also plans to host a Community Safety Workshop in collaboration with the Council on American-Islamic Relations during the week.

Additionally, staff will create United Against Hate booklists for both young and adult readers that will be showcased on the Library's homepage. United Against Hate book and media displays will be set up in the Teen Zone and on the second floor.

PROGRAMS

Past Program Highlights

Children brought their stuffed animals to a nighttime storytime on September 14, and then the stuffed animals enjoyed a sleepover at the Library with their new friends. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Kids dropped into Let's Create on September 20 to create puppet show theaters. We enjoyed watching the kids' original performances as much as the kids enjoyed performing them.



Harpist Aysha Gomez-Kureishi performed an exciting selection of songs from popular science fiction and fantasy works, including the worlds of *Star Wars*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter*, and more. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



All were engrossed in Video Game History Foundation Director Frank Cifaldi's discussion about the current landscape of video game preservation. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Other Past Programs

- Tuesday, September 5: Grow a Successful Winter Vegetable Garden—Attendance: 19
- Wednesday, September 6: Let's Create—Attendance: 23
- Wednesday, September 6: ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 27
- Wednesday, September 6: Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English—Attendance: 51
- Thursday, September 7: Life, Love, Family, and Food: An Author Talk with Lidia Bastianich, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 13
- Thursday, September 7: Housing and Eviction Help Center—Attendance: 5
- Thursday, September 7: Archaeology Q&A with Andrew Kinkella, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 18
- Saturday, September 9: Saturday Morning Cartoons at the Library: Vintage Superman—Attendance: 17
- Monday, September 11: The Simulation Hypothesis: From the Metaverse to the Matrix—Attendance: 13
- Tuesday, September 12: Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 181
- Wednesday, September 13: ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 32
- Wednesday, September 13: Author Talk with Peter V. Brett—Attendance: 18
- Thursday, September 14: Art Explorers, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 24
- Thursday, September 14: Stuffed Animal Sleepover, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 102
- Saturday, September 16: Drop-in Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 20
- Saturday, September 16: Science Fiction and Fantasy Music with Aysha Gomez-Kureishi, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 53

- Monday, September 18: Sci-Fi Storytime—Attendance: 32
- Tuesday, September 19: Sewing with FabMo: Zodiac Constellation Embroidery, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 6
- Tuesday, September 19: Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 206
- Wednesday, September 20: How to Get Unstuck When It Matters Most: An Author Talk with Adam Alter, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 3
- Wednesday, September 20: Let's Create—Attendance: 41
- Wednesday, September 20: ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 22
- Thursday, September 21: Planet Design—Attendance: 55
- Thursday, September 21: Housing and Eviction Help Center—Attendance: 6
- Thursday, September 21: The Unique Challenges of Preserving Video Game History, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 45
- Friday, September 22: Baby Storytime—Attendance: 113
- Saturday, September 23: Science Fiction and Fantasy Drawing Class, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 10
- Monday, September 25: Pastel Galaxies—Attendance: 1
- Tuesday, September 26: A Romp Through the Early History of Computers—Attendance: 49
- Tuesday, September 26: Bilingual Storytime: Spanish/English—Attendance: 14
- Wednesday, September 27: The Best You for the Best Them—Attendance: 31
- Wednesday, September 27: ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 23
- Wednesday, September 27: On Writing Three International Bestsellers: An Author Talk with Amor Towles, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 41
- Wednesday, September 27: Sing and Play Along Ukulele Jam, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 9

- Thursday, September 28: Art Explorers, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 8
- Thursday, September 28: Author Talk with Ann Leckie—Attendance: 57
- Friday, September 29: Baby Storytime—Attendance: 105
- Saturday, September 30: Switch It Up Saturday—Attendance: 15

Upcoming Programs

- Online Author Series
 - [Wednesday, November 1](#): You are invited to an intimate conversation with *Full House* star John Stamos as he discusses his memoir, *If You Would Have Told Me*.
 - [Thursday, November 9](#): Join “The Budgetnista” Tiffany Aliche as she talks about her *New York Times* bestseller *Get Good with Money* and provides advice about budgeting, investing, credit rating, estate planning, and more.
 - [Thursday, November 16](#): United States Poet Laureate and winner of the 2022 Academy of American Poets Leadership Award Joy Harjo joins us for a chat about her most recent memoir *Catching the Light* and to discuss her rewarding lifetime as a writer and poet.
 - [Thursday, November 30](#): Bestselling and award-winning author Naomi Alderman will talk about her new book *The Future*, where a handful of friends plot a daring heist to save the world from the tech giants whose greed threatens life as we know it.
- Afternoon Art: Fall Flowers
 - [Saturday, November 4](#): Learn how to make paper flowers in fall colors, then use your creativity and imagination to take it further with bouquets, wreaths, garlands, centerpieces, and more.
- Potty Training with Jenny
 - [Monday, November 6](#): Oh Crap Potty Training Certified Expert Jenny Phelps will provide parents with all the answers they need to be done with diapers for good.

- Mountain View History 101
 - [Tuesday, November 7](#): Join us as we celebrate the 121st anniversary of the City of Mountain View's incorporation with a special talk by local history book author Nick Perry, who will share highlights from his decades of research on the history of Mountain View using photos and stories that trace the City's constant growth and evolution over the decades.
- Opioid Addiction Prevention Workshop
 - *[Wednesday, November 8](#): Learn how to use Narcan to save someone from an opioid overdose at this special program presented by Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian and the County of Santa Clara's Behavioral Health Services Department.
- Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English
 - [Wednesday, November 8](#): Children ages 2-5 and their adults are invited to enjoy stories, rhymes, and songs in Mandarin and English in the Children's Room.
- Art Explorers
 - [Thursday, November 9](#): Learn about the artist behind the art and the tools they used to create their masterpieces in this program for ages 9 to 12.
- Friendship Bracelets
 - *[Tuesday, November 14](#): Teens are invited to drop in and make friendship bracelets in the Teen Zone with provided materials, including beads, letters, string, and other materials.
- Design Lessons from a Water-Wise Garden
 - [Tuesday, November 14](#): Come to this Master Gardener's presentation to learn about the Water-Wise Garden in the Palo Alto Demonstration Garden and how you might effectively use it as inspiration for your own garden.
- Community Safety Workshop
 - *[Thursday, November 16](#): Participate in this workshop presented by the Council on American-Islamic Relations to learn about student rights and school bullying and how to ensure the safety of your community.

- United Against Hate Film Screening: *The Issue of Mr. O'Dell* and *Not Your Model Minority*
 - *[Saturday, November 18](#): Join us for a screening of these two short documentaries that promote antiracism and inclusivity.
- Sewing with FabMo: Sorcerer's Scarf
 - [Tuesday, November 28](#): Learn a simple but dramatic embellishing technique and create your own sorcerer's scarf.
- Sensory Storytime
 - [Wednesday, November 29](#): This storytime supports the needs of preschool-age neurodivergent children in a fun, interactive, and educational way through the use of books, songs, movement, and adapted play.

* The link to this event was not finalized at the time this report was submitted. If the link does not work, please try accessing it at a later date.

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

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