

DATE: August 21, 2023

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Tracy Gray, Library Director
Katie Hom, Librarian

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

SUMMER READING RECAP

The Library completed a hugely successful Summer Reading Program on July 31. A total of 6,701 people participated in our programs. We saw a significant increase in registrations, particularly with adults.

SUMMER READING REGISTRATIONS			
CHALLENGE	2023	2022	% CHANGE
Children's	1,204	765	57%
Teens	202	125	61%
Adults	535	265	101%
Total	1,941	1,155	68%

Library staff has distributed the following prizes:

- 700 Children's badge books
- 369 Children's prize books
- 41 Teen prize books
- 410 Youth Friends coupons
- 38 Adult Friends coupons

LIBRARY TOURS

On July 19, we gave a tour of the Library to a group of teen interns from the [Asian American Forward organization](#). The interns were escorted by Assistant City Manager Arn Andrews and

Councilmember Margaret Abe-Koga. Library staff introduced the interns to the lobby area, Children's Room, and second floor collections and informed them of our programs and services.

We welcomed another group of teens for a Library tour on July 31, comprised of exchange students from Mountain View and our sister city in Iwata, Japan. The tour was arranged as part of the Mountain View Sister City (MVSC) City Day. Library staff highlighted the lobby area, Children's Room, Teen Zone, and second floor, including the History Center. The teens were particularly interested in the textbooks in the Teen Zone and the yearbook collection in the History Center.

TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

On July 20, the Library participated in the Eighth Annual Technology Showcase presented by the City and the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce. Library staff spoke with 221 community members about library programs and services, gave out prizes with a spin of the prize wheel, and issued 11 new library cards. Staff from the Youth and Bookmobile Division shared a paper robot craft for children to make on-site or to take home.



SCI-FI SEPTEMBER

Sci-Fi September is coming soon. Every year in September, the Library hosts a series of events celebrating science fiction, fantasy, and the real-life science that inspires the stories. Authors Peter V. Brett and Ann Leckie are confirmed for author talks, while harpist Aysha Gomez-Kureishi will perform music from popular science fiction and fantasy movies. Keep checking our calendar for updates as we add more [Sci-Fi September events](#).

PROGRAMS

Past Program Highlights

The Library hosted two highly attended concerts in July. Classical guitarist Bowen Zheng showcased a repertoire of classical music spanning the last hundred years, featuring a variety of composers from around the world. Harpist Aysha Gomez-Kureishi transported us to the virtual world of Hyrule with her beautiful renditions of iconic music from *The Legend of Zelda* video game series. Both programs were generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



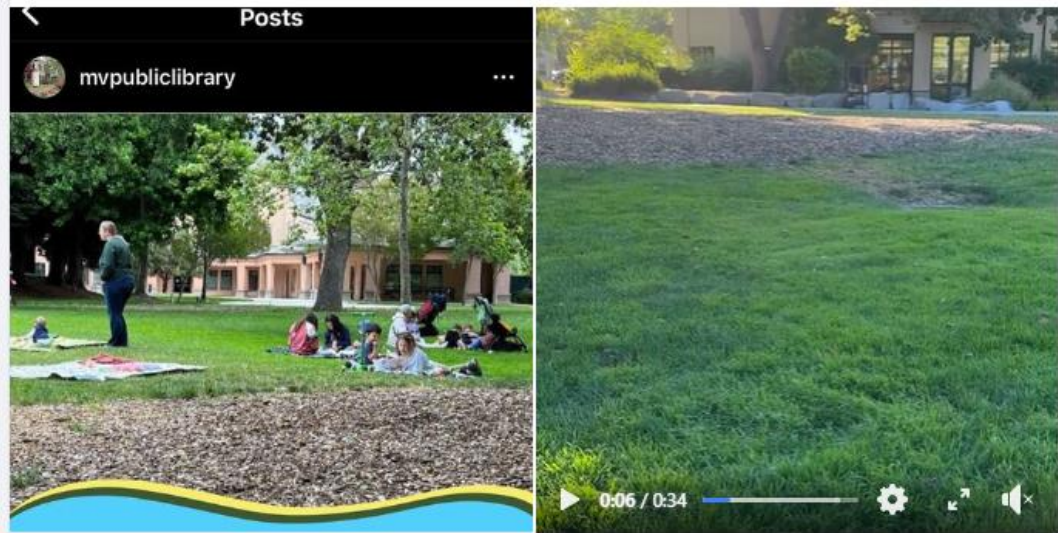
Kids and families explored physics, anatomy, astronomy, engineering, and other topics through a variety of engaging activities during our STEAM Friday programs. Aspiring scientists, engineers, and artists visited our workshop to ponder and experiment with the STEAM topic of the week.



The Library's second Drop Everything and Read program was held in Pioneer Park on Tuesday, July 18. Community members of all ages enjoyed reading, eating ice cream, and listening to classical music together. We received positive feedback from attendees both in person and on Facebook.



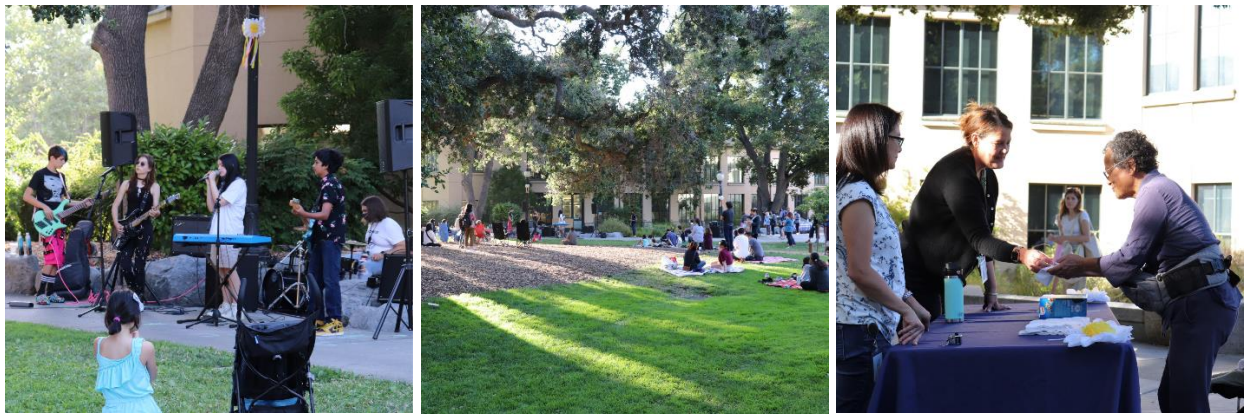
Just reading with a few neighbors. Popsicles and classical music on the speakers, too. Thanks, @mvpubliclibrary ❤️📖



An audience of 324 people of all ages were enthralled by the Happy Birds show on July 26. The remarkable parrots showed off their unique skills such as mimicking, singing, riding scooters, playing games, and more. The participants learned about parrots and parrot rescues, and a few lucky kids were invited on stage to assist with tricks.



The Library came together with 130 residents to give the Summer Reading Program a send-off on July 31. We enjoyed ice cream and danced along to an electrifying performance by Palo Alto's School of Rock House Band.



Other Past Programs

- Saturday, July 1—Family Storytime—Attendance: 94
- Wednesday, July 5—Preschool Math Storytime—Attendance: 38
- Wednesday, July 5—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 21
- Thursday, July 6—Bilingual Program (Spanish & English)—Attendance: 61
- Thursday, July 6—Housing and Eviction Help Center—Attendance: 8
- Friday, July 7—STEAM Fridays, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 90
- Saturday, July 8—Afternoon Art: Books! Books! Books!—Attendance: 64

- Monday, July 10—Perry Yan's Magic Show, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 371
- Tuesday, July 11—Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 276
- Tuesday, July 11—Classical Guitar Concert with Bowen Zheng, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 59
- Wednesday, July 12—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 37
- Wednesday, July 12—Preschool Math Storytime—Attendance: 46
- Thursday, July 13—Let's Create—Attendance: 57
- Thursday, July 13—Planning a Simple Native Garden for Beginners—Attendance: 38
- Friday, July 14—STEAM Fridays, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 96
- Saturday, July 15—Drop-in Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 15
- Saturday, July 15—Author Talk with Charles Soule: *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *Daredevil & She-Hulk*, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 9
- Saturday, July 15—Music From The Legend of Zelda: Performed by Harpist Aysha Gomez-Kureishi, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 113
- Monday, July 17—No-Sew T-Shirt Tote Bags, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 6
- Tuesday, July 18—Drop Everything and Read—Attendance: 78
- Wednesday, July 19—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 28
- Wednesday, July 19—Preschool Math Storytime—Attendance: 59
- Thursday, July 20—The Voice in Our Head, Why It Matters, and How to Harness It—Author Talk with Ethan Kross, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 26
- Thursday, July 20—Shark Showcase, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 31

- Thursday, July 20—Housing and Eviction Help Center—Attendance: 5
- Friday, July 21—STEAM Fridays, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 91
- Saturday, July 22—Family Storytime—Attendance: 93
- Monday, July 24—Pajama Storytime—Attendance: 42
- Tuesday, July 25—Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 243
- Tuesday, July 25—Crying in the Bathroom: A Memoir: An Author Talk with Erika Sánchez, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 16
- Tuesday, July 25—Let's Create—Attendance: 60
- Tuesday, July 25—Disinheriting the IRS From Your IRA—Attendance: 32
- Wednesday, July 26—Happy Birds, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 324
- Wednesday, July 26—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 26
- Thursday, July 27—Graphic Design Basics—Attendance: 6
- Friday, July 28—STEAM Fridays, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 108
- Saturday, July 29—Family Storytime—Attendance: 154
- Monday, July 31—Summer Reading Finale—Attendance: 130

Upcoming Programs

- Sci-Fi September Programs
 - [Saturday, September 16](#)—Listen to harpist Aysha Gomez-Kureishi perform selections from well-loved science fiction and fantasy works, including the worlds of *Star Wars*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter*, and more.
 - [Monday, September 18](#)—Young children are invited to join us for an extraordinary storytime filled with space adventures, songs, and rhymes.

- [Saturday, September 23](#)—Learn basic drawing techniques from illustrator Karen Luk to create fantastical beasts, space stations, and more.
- [Thursday, September 28](#)—Enjoy an exclusive conversation with critically acclaimed science fiction author Ann Leckie.
- Grow a Successful Winter Vegetable Garden
 - [Tuesday, September 5](#)—Learn how to start and maintain a winter vegetable garden with Master Gardener Ann Burrell, who will share advice about site selection, soil preparation, vegetable and variety selection, timing, and more.
- Stuffed Animal Sleepover
 - [Thursday, September 14](#)—Bring your little one to listen to stories and songs with their favorite stuffed animal, then pick up their animal the next day with photos of their special overnight adventure.
- Art Explorers
 - [Thursday, September 14](#)—Children will learn about a specific artist before creating their own art project.
- On Writing Three International Bestsellers: An Author Talk with Amor Towles
 - [Wednesday, September 27](#)—*New York Times* bestselling author Amor Towles will talk about his incredible body of work, including *Rules of Civility*, *A Gentleman in Moscow*, and *The Lincoln Highway*.

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