

AT THE LIBRARY

Events and Happenings at the San Francisco Public Library

June 2020

Vol. 51 No. 6

Stride into Summer Learning 2020

How does the 2018 Library of the Year pivot its annual summer learning, reading and exploration program during a global pandemic? Glad you asked. We've increased our eBook collection to provide even more fantastic reads, developed online programs for kids and adults and designed a new Virtual Library page on our website. Our universal goal this summer is to reach and inspire San Francisco to read more, learn more and stay well.

We've partnered for the seventh year with Chronicle Books to commission original art from Alison Farrell, inspired by her 2019 book, *The Hike*, her previous years living in the Outer Sunset and love of the natural world. This was the perfect pairing for our collaboration with SF Recreation & Parks, Parks Alliance, National Park Service, Presidio Trust and Parks Conservancy. To celebrate Golden Gate Park's 150th Anniversary, Farrell designed an Activity Tracker as a walk, run or cycle adventure through the Park's treasures, beginning in the Panhandle and finishing at an Ocean Beach sunset. It is a San Francisco nature lover's delight.

New this year, participants can also track their reading and learning time on Beanstack, an online platform that can be accessed from a computer or mobile device. Register your family or just yourself. Track 20 minutes a day and earn badges and the coveted 2020 Summer Stride tote featuring Farrell's original art. Also, don't miss the SFUSD/SFPL Recommended Reading List for preschoolers to high schoolers.

PRO TIP: Check sfpl.org/summerstride for all things Summer and follow us on Instagram and Twitter for updates.



Alison Farrell in her studio. Photo: Zoey Abbott

Meet Alison Farrell, Our 2020 Summer Stride Artist

Q: How did your experience living in SF inspire your illustrations for Summer Stride?

A: I have many fond memories of San Francisco, especially of Golden Gate Park! When I lived there, I rode my bike through the park and The Wiggle on a daily basis. Just thinking about it makes me miss the smell of eucalyptus trees! There are so many iconic locations in the park and in the city, it was difficult but fun to narrow it down.

Q: How have public libraries had an impact on your life?

A: My first memories of a public library is in the small New England town where I grew up. The original library was built in the late 1800s and was made of granite, sandstone and slate. I remember feeling a real sense of reverence for the quiet old building and the books it contained. I also felt comfort and belonging there, like it was a very safe place that suited me.

As an adult, I am amazed and proud of how libraries have grown from places that contain books to beautiful community gathering spaces. When my son was very young, we were frequent visitors of the Ortega Library in the Outer Sunset. Not only did this library nurture my son, but it also gave me hundreds of picture books to read as I was building my career as an illustrator and author.

Join Alison Farrell for our Summer Stride Kickoff!

This year's virtual event is co-presented with the National Park Service and features Alison's live reading of *The Hike*. Let our author sweep you away in a live reading of an adventure story about three young explorers who set out to conquer the outdoors in their local forest. June 5, 11 a.m., sfpl.org/summerstride.

Spotlight on SFPL Disaster Service Workers



Yuen Chan, Cantonese Language Translator:

It's my honor to become a DSW at SF EOC where I can support the community with my translation expertise and spread the message throughout the City! Stay home and save lives!



Rita Masina, Building and Grounds Patrol Officer:

I am so humbled, knowing that the work I am doing is helping to feed those affected by COVID-19. It feels great! I am grateful to be a part of the SFPL Family, and the City and County of San Francisco.



Jessica Jaramillo, District Manager:

I believe contact tracing, along with increased testing, are two of the most powerful tools we have to move towards reopening more safely. It feels good to take part in the effort to protect San Francisco and the Bay Area, especially reaching out to the Latinx community who has been among the hardest hit economically and health wise in this crisis. We're in it for the long haul with this disease, and I'm grateful to have the opportunity to put my skills to use in finding our way forward.

Calling All Citizen Archivists!

The San Francisco History Center is actively archiving all types of materials, in multiple formats, to build a Community Time Capsule, a collection that documents and preserves the collective experiences of San Francisco residents during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

What's happening to you? Your neighborhood? Your schools, your workplaces? Put on your archivist's hat and capture what is different in our world today, what we miss, what we've created to reflect our new reality and how we are communicating and living now. With your help, SFPL will build a collection that reflects the many ways San Franciscans were impacted by, and responded to, this public health crisis.

For more information, visit sfpl.org/covid19-time-capsule.



Photos: Julie Gebhardt

Collections and Services

get social!

SFPL.ORG

 facebook.com/sfpl.org

 twitter.com/SFPublicLibrary

 instagram.com/sfpubliclibrary

 youtube.com/user/SanFranciscoLibrary



ON the SAME PAGE

June 2020 Selection: *Disasterama!* by Alvin Orloff



Alvin Orloff.
Photo: Daniel Nicoletta

Alvin Orloff, Bay Area native and 2020 Lambda Literary award finalist for best Gay Memoir/Biography, is our summer On the Same Page selected author for his book *Disasterama!: Adventures in the Queer Underground 1977-1997* (Three Rooms Press).

Disasterama! is a fun, raunchy, hilarious and painful coming-of-age memoir.

One cannot speak of gay counterculture in the 80s and not get entrenched in the AIDS crisis and the loss of life that ensued. Orloff accomplishes this with honest emotion and humor. Opening with the teenage Orloff in search of acceptance, love, but mostly sex—he finds Michael Joseph Collins, who becomes his infatuation, creative partner, bandmate in The Popstites, love and friend.

Orloff's memoir is an important slice of San Francisco queer history, particularly queer nightlife and artistic and music venues and the loss of these spaces. The book features a landscape of Bay Area spots, including The Stud, White Horse, Foxy Lady Boutique, Southern Exposure Gallery and glorious misadventures on Polk and Castro Streets. Orloff's *Disasterama!* has it all—gay sex, drugs and punk rock.

Get the book today at Dog Eared Books Castro by calling between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday (415) 282-1901, or order online at dogearedbooks.com.

Visit sfpl.org/books-and-media/read/read-writers-edition to read our interview with Alvin Orloff and sfpl.org/books-and-media/read/same-page-disasterama for more information and read-alike books and media.

Alvin Orloff, Beth Lisik and K.M. Soehnlén in conversation – June 10, 6 p.m., sfpl.org/virtual-library

On the Same Page Book Club: Discussing *Disasterama!* – June 28, 2 p.m., sfpl.org/virtual-library



Disasterama! Read-Alikes:

When We Rise: My Life in the Movement
by Cleve Jones

How We Fight for Our Lives: A Memoir
by Saeed Jones

Tinderbox: The Untold Story of the Up Stairs Lounge Fire and the Rise of Gay Liberation
by Robert W. Fieseler

Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls: A Memoir
by T Kira Madden

We Are Everywhere: Protest, Power, and Pride in the History of Queer Liberation
by Leighton Brown and Matthew Riemer

Jimmy Neurosis: A Memoir
by James Oseland

A Queer History of the United States for Young People
by Michael Bronski, adapted by Richie Chevat

How to Write an Autobiographical Novel
by Alexander Chee

PRIDE at Home: Explore LGBTQIA eResources

While we continue to shelter in place and practice social distancing, many of us are missing the rich assortment of LGBTQIA physical materials available to borrow or to browse, perhaps while lounging in the lovely James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center at the Main Library. But did you know that you can also access great digital material right from home? One of the best places to look is the Archives of Sexuality & Gender, available via our website. The numerous historical documents in this database are drawn from hundreds of institutions and organizations, including both major international activist organizations and local, grassroots groups, like San Francisco's own GLBT Historical Society. You can find letters, photographs, transcripts of oral histories, newsletters, magazines and much more.

To access the Archives of Sexuality and Gender database with your San Francisco Public Library card, visit sfpl.org/databases, then click the Topics tab and select LGBTQIA in the menu.

Another great database offering light reading as well as academic resources is EBSCO's LGBT Life with Full Text. This database includes many full-text articles from scholarly and popular LGBT publications, plus historically important primary sources, including monographs, magazines and newspapers. In LGBT Life, you can read articles from such popular LGBTQIA publications as *Advocate*, *Bay Area Reporter*, *Gay Parent Magazine*, *Leather Times* and *Out*.



Build Your Own Queer Quarantine Playlist with Dee Dee Kramer, program manager at the James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center

SFPL has some great queer content for streaming and download. What follows is my personal playlist, which draws from several of our subscribed platforms. Take a look if you like, then build your own!

- ***T'aint Nobody's Bizness: Queer Blues Divas of the 1920s***. (2013, 29 mins. Kanopy). Nothing like the blues when you're stuck at home. A documentary narrated by Jewelle Gomez.
- ***Carol*** (10 hours, 37 minutes. hoopla). Audiobook version of the 1952 lesbian cult classic, *The Price of Salt* by Patricia Highsmith.
- ***Hecho en Saturno*** (Overdrive/Libby). An eBook on my virtual nightstand by Dominican queer writer Rita Indiana.

P.S. Don't forget to have your SFPL library card at-the-ready so you can log in when prompted.

COME TO YOUR CENSUS, S.F.



Artwork: Innosanto Nagara

Why is it important to be counted in the 2020 Census?

- Political representation: Census numbers are used for "apportionment," i.e. determining how many congressional seats each state gets. If we are undercounted, California could lose a seat in Congress.
- Federal funding. Census numbers are used to allot funding to states for housing, childcare, transportation and much more.

Take action now! Go to 2020census.gov.



Achieve Your Dreams with Career Online High School

People with at least a high school diploma are more likely to be employed, and at higher wages. For the many San Franciscans still working toward this goal, shut-down time can become school time with SFPL's Career Online High School.

Students enrolled in Career Online High School work on their own schedules, day or night, to finish their courses and complete career training in one of 10 in-demand career fields, such as childcare and education or certified commercial driving. Classes can be completed on a desktop, laptop, iPad or other tablet. Enrolled students receive support from the library and an academic coach. Any California resident 19 or older can enroll and may be able to transfer any existing high school credits.

To date, 40 people have earned their accredited high school diploma from the Library. Many graduates say they enrolled to provide a good example for their family or land a better job. And many are excited to keep going with their educational journeys. "Now that I've graduated, I'm going to keep reaching higher by going on to earn a degree in law/family immigration," said graduate Edna Freeman. "I know that my voice matters and my dreams can come true!" To get started, visit sfpl.org/cohs.



Check Out Our Podcast!

The Library Friends Podcast is a way for you to get more connected with the Library. View our latest episode, *Librarians on the Front Lines of the COVID-19 Pandemic*.

Find the podcast by searching "Library Friends Podcast" on your favorite podcasting app, or by going to friendssfpl.org/Podcast.

Friends Bookstore

Locations & Hours

Check our website for exact locations, schedules and hours.

FriendsSFPL.org

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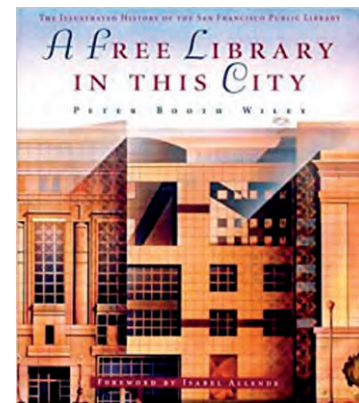
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New Voices Unite Campaign Celebrates Library Community

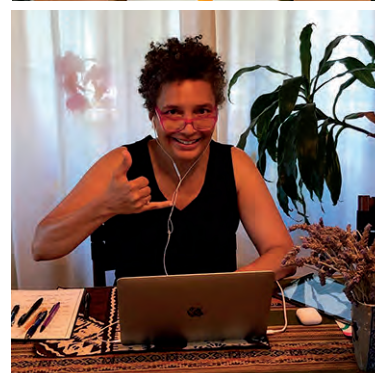
Friends has started a new campaign called Voices Unite, to share and celebrate our unique community of librarians, library workers and patrons. In all of our content, including our new Library Friends podcast, we are posting interviews with these changemakers in our community. These intimate conversations give you a chance to learn more about the extraordinary people you used to pass by at the Library before the shelter-in-place order.



Peter Booth Wiley

In May 2020, we interviewed Librarian turned Disaster Service Worker, Alan Wong. We also spoke with Daniel Matsumoto, an eResources Librarian at SFPL, about how the Library's online services are adapting to the influx of traffic. Another can't-miss conversation is an interview with historian and advocate Peter Booth Wiley on how the Library's past can help us understand this turbulent new present, and how we can prepare for the future.

The Coronavirus pandemic has been hard on everyone, but from quarantine, librarians have taken the opportunity to innovate and engage with the public in free and accessible ways. These library workers are continuing the Library's mission of free access to all, and Friends is here to provide additional financial support for technology, equipment and services to help tell this important story of public service.



Subscribe to the Library Friends Podcast and hear these stories:

- How Librarians are keeping in contact with their regular patrons
- How Librarians are documenting history in real-time
- How library workers are keeping the Library branches safe, clean and ready for patrons once shelter-in-place is lifted
- How authors and journalists are utilizing the Library's online services
- How Librarians are helping to feed the community
- How Librarians are on the front lines of the City's contact tracing efforts

To subscribe to the Library Friends Podcast and listen to the Voices Unite interviews, go to FriendsSFPL.org/voices.

SFPL staff deployed as Disaster Service Workers helping to feed the community and on the front lines of the City's contact tracing efforts.



The mission of Friends of the San Francisco Public Library is to create, steward and support a superior, free public library system in San Francisco. We are committed to raising the standard of excellence of our libraries by funding programs and services beyond what is allocated in the city's budget. We believe in free and equal access to information for all.

Help Our Local Independent Bookstores Recover from COVID-19 Closures and Get 10% Off

Friends members (\$60+ level) receive a 10% discount at the following bookstores:

- A. Cavalli Italian Bookstore ■ Academy Store, California Academy of Science ■ Adobe Bookstore ■ Alan Wofsy Fine Arts LLC ■ Alexander Book Co., Inc. ■ Alley Cat Books ■ Amazing Fantasy ■ The Beat Museum ■ Bibliohead Bookstore ■ Bibliomania ■ Bird & Beckett Books & Records ■ Black Oak Books Holding Corp. ■ Bolerium Books ■ Books, Inc. ■ Booksmith ■ Borderlands Books ■ Browser Books ■ Christopher's Books ■ Chronicle Books ■ Compass Books, Inc. ■ Dog Eared Books ■ Eastwind Books ■ Globus Slavic Bookstore ■ Great Overland Book Company ■ Green Apple Books & Music ■ The Green Arcade ■ Kayo Books ■ Louie Brothers Book Store, Inc. ■ Manning's Books & Prints ■ Marcus Book Stores ■ Omnivore Books on Food ■ Friends Bookstore: Fort Mason and Main Library ■ Red Hill Books ■ San Francisco Botanical Gardens, Garden Bookstore ■ Thidwick Books ■

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Artwork by Alison Farrell

The San Francisco Public Library system is dedicated to free and equal access to information, knowledge, independent learning and the joys of reading for our diverse community.

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Online version: sfpl.org/atl

How to reach us

San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
phone hours: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
(415) 557-4400
(415) 557-4433 (TTY)

Public Affairs email: publicaffairs@sfpl.org
Website: sfpl.org

During the library closure, staff are available to assist by email or phone (TIP Line) Monday - Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Online: Ask for eBook assistance or email info@sfpl.org
TIP Line: (415) 557-4400

eBook Assistance:

sfpl.org/books-and-media/ebook-collections

Frequently Asked Questions:

sfpl.libanswers.com

Libraries Closed

All locations and bookdrops of the San Francisco Public Library are currently closed to help limit the spread of COVID-19. Check back for updates on our reopening date. Find the latest on our response to the virus here: sfpl.org/coronavirus and sfpl.org/services/library-closure-frequently-asked-questions-faqs



San Francisco Public Library

VIRTUAL LIBRARY EVENT CALENDAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

Dialogue: What's Phase Two if I'm 82? COVID-19 Q&A

Tuesday, June 2, 12-12:45 p.m.

With Louise Aronson, leading geriatrician, professor of medicine at UCSF.

World Literature Book Club: Oscar Wilde's *De Profundis*

Thursday, June 4, 6-7:30 p.m.
Zoom platform

Oscar Wilde's heartrending letter to Lord Alfred Douglas. Link will be sent on event day.

Reservations required:
<https://bit.ly/WLitOscarWilde>

ESL Conversation Group

Thursdays, June 4, 11, 18
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Practice speaking English in a friendly group setting. Link will be emailed following registration.

The Power of Scrappy

Tuesday, June 9, 6 p.m.

Diana Kapp is author of *Girls Who Run The World: 31 CEOs Who Mean Business*, and Emily Pilloton is author of *Girls Garage: How to Use Any Tool, Tackle Any Project and Build the World You Want to See*.

Alvin Orloff, Beth Lisik and K.M. Soehnlén in conversation

Wednesday, June 10, 6-7:30 p.m.

Alvin Orloff, Bay Area native, 2020 Lambda Literary award finalist for best Gay Memoir is our On the Same Page selected author for his book *Disasterama!*

Reservation required: <https://bit.ly/DisasteramaAuthorTalk>

Poem Jam with Kim Shuck and Guests

Thursday, June 11, 6-7:30 p.m.

San Francisco Poet Laureate Kim Shuck and special guests read poetry.

Reservation required:
<https://bit.ly/PoetryJun11>

Resume Writing Essentials

Monday, June 22,
10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Jim Van Buskirk presents *Chronicling San Francisco in the Century Before Stonewall*
Tuesday, June 23, 7 p.m.

On the Same Page Book Club: *Disasterama!* by Alvin Orloff

Sunday, June 28, 2-3 p.m.

Reservations required:
<https://bit.ly/DisasteramaBkClb>

FAMILY & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE

Alphabet Rockers Rock the Block

Wednesday, June 3, 11-11:30 a.m.
Move and groove in a community dance party with two-time GRAMMY nominees Alphabet Rockers.

Summer Stride Kickoff with Alison Farrell

Friday, June 5, 11 a.m.
Co-presented with the National Park Service and featuring a live reading of *The Hike*.

Super Soccer Stars

Wednesday, June 10, 11-11:40 a.m.
Learn basic soccer skills in a non-with live tips from experienced coaches. For kids 5 and older.

Book Arts Roadshow

Wednesday, June 17, 11-11:30 a.m.
Learn to make a handmade book.

Hive Dive with FOG City Gardener

Wednesday, June 24, 11-11:30 a.m.
Learn about the foods that bees help put on our table.

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY

Sweet Storytimes with SFPL

Mondays, June 1, 8, 15, 22
Tuesdays, June 2, 9, 16, 23
Thursdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25
2-2:15 p.m.

with Special Guests: Fridays,
June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2-2:15 p.m.

in Chinese: Wednesdays,
June 3, 10, 17, 24, 2-2:15 p.m.

en español: Saturdays,
June 6, 13, 20, 10-10:15 a.m.

Watch on IGTV@sfpubliclibrary or on the Library YouTube channel.

Visit Our Virtual Library!

Plus: we offer many opportunities for eLearning. Build valuable job skills or work on your resume, get one-on-one tutoring and homework help, all from your home. We've got you covered.

Visit sfpl.org/virtual-library for more event and registration info.

