

AT THE LIBRARY

Events and Happenings at the San Francisco Public Library

August 2020

Vol. 51 No. 8

SFPL To Go Is Here!

It's fabulous to welcome you back.

The Library and its staff are pleased to announce SFPL To Go, the first stage in a careful reopening of San Francisco public libraries amid the COVID-19 pandemic. SFPL To Go launches in early August.

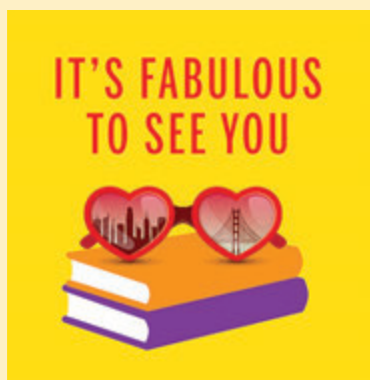
SFPL followed the latest public health guidance and developed safe protocols for contact-free, front door pick-up library services aimed at protecting front-line staff while also ensuring the safety of library patrons. In this initial phase, Library patrons may request reserves on books, DVDs, CDs and other physical materials. Once the items are available, patrons will be notified and can come get their materials.

This phase will start at the Main Library and Excelsior Branch and will expand later to other neighborhood libraries as the City and staffing allow.

In addition, SFPL bookmobiles will be put into service to support additional pop-up locations around the City and Treasure Island.

Library staff also are working to develop safety protocols for the next phase of service that would allow patrons inside our buildings once again.

Thank you all for your messages of encouragement and hope during our closure. We've missed you, our beloved patrons, and can't wait to see you again.



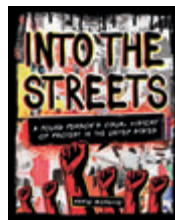
Summer Stride Comes to an Exciting Finale

It's been a thrilling summer of virtual family programming at the Library. We hope you've been following our weekly STEM Challenge that airs @sfpubliclibrary on Instagram and YouTube each Tuesday at 11 a.m. Don't miss our final episode on Tuesday, Aug. 4. (All STEM Challenge Yo'Self episodes are available on our YouTube channel.)

We're so excited to close out the Local Talent Showcase for Families series with Tree Frog Treks and Alphabet Rockers. Chris "Mr. Science" Giorni, founder of Tree Frog Treks, joined us at the Main Library pop-up "TV studio" to record an up-close meet-and-greet with some of his favorite amphibians and reptiles—some small and some very, very large! In our final week, we bring back two-time Grammy-nominated hip-hop group, Alphabet Rockers, for a Songwriting for Young Change Makers workshop. This is a rare chance to have an interactive workshop with some of the most innovative and passionate music makers in a creative, intimate online setting.



Alphabet Rockers. Photo: Nino Fernandez



Marke Bieschke

Bieschke speaks about his new book, *Into the Streets: A Young Person's Visual History of Protest in the United States*. West Oakland to West Africa Poetry Exchange transcends technological space through poetry, featuring poets from the Bay Area, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. The California Native Plant Society teaches budding and experienced gardeners how to attract San Francisco's butterflies and pollinators.

See the calendar on page 4 and sfpl.org for program details.

For adults, we have many fun and educational events, featuring story, poetry, book clubs, gardening and more. Linda Jackson, local writer, photographer and historian, presents a photographic retrospective of the City's African American community, featuring many previously unpublished photos by her father Steve Jackson, Jr., resident photographer at Jimbo's Bop City (1951-1965). Publisher and arts editor of 48 Hills Marke



Photograph by Steve Jackson, Jr.

Immerse Yourself in Red Power

SFPL and the National Park Service on Alcatraz Island continues the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Occupation of Alcatraz with two special events. Tane Ross, Director of Animation at Injunity—a mix of animation, music, and real thoughts from real people exploring our world from the Native American perspective—discusses and



Dr. LaNada War Jack. Photo: Theodore Means Jr.

screens films from the Injunity team. We are honored to once again host Dr. LaNada War Jack, member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, scholar, educator, author and leader. In her program, Dr. War Jack moderates a discussion around the role of Indigenous women during and after the occupation of Alcatraz Island.

Injunity with Tane Ross – Aug. 1, 11 a.m. Reservations required: <https://bit.ly/RedPower08-1-20>

The Women of Red Power and Alcatraz – Aug. 8, 11 a.m. Reservations required: <https://bit.ly/WomenRedPower8-8-20>

Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of US Women's Suffrage

California women won the right to vote in 1911, nine years before American women gained universal suffrage in 1920. This early victory was the result of two hard fought statewide campaigns, the first which was lost in 1896 and the second, successful one that passed by a mere 3,587 votes in 1911. This upcoming program brings to light one of the hidden San Francisco stories of the California campaign.

In 1908, 12 years before ratification of the 19th Amendment that gave all American women the right to vote, women of the California Equal Suffrage Association linked arms and protested in what is believed to be the first

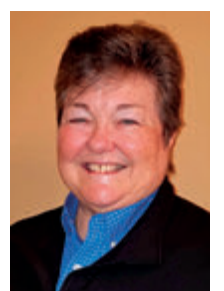
suffrage march in America. Co-led by two women from San Francisco and one from Mill Valley, the march to the California State Republican Convention in Oakland helped raise awareness and broadcast the determination of these emboldened women to gain their equal rights.

In the program "Undocumented History: America's First Suffrage March and the San Francisco Women Who Led It," Evelyn Rose, PharmD, Director and Founder of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project, describes the backstory of these women and the activities of the California Equal Suffrage Association leading up to this little-known event.

Undocumented History: America's First Suffrage March and the San Francisco Women Who Led It – Aug. 27, 6 p.m. Reservations required: <https://bit.ly/Suffrage8-27-20>



Photo: Johanna Pinther (right) and Jeanette Pinther (center) of San Francisco, and Lillian Harris Coffin of Mill Valley, Marin County, co-lead the first suffrage march in America on Aug. 27, 1908. Image courtesy of the California Historical Society.



Evelyn Rose

Events, Collections and Services

get social!



ON the SAME PAGE

August 2020 Selection:

Get Ready for a Summer of Self-Love with Author Virgie Tovar

SFPL is excited for an evening with Virgie Tovar, author of *The Self-Love Revolution: Radical Body Positivity for Girls of Color* (New Harbinger Publications, 2020) and *You Have the Right to Remain Fat* (Feminist Press, 2018). In this program, Tovar will share her most surprising findings and tools from her decade dedicated to understanding why



we are so afraid of being fat.

Looking for more? Our On the Same Page virtual book club will discuss *You Have the Right to Remain Fat*, in which Tovar examines the link between fat phobia and diet culture and how women are taught to blame themselves, not society, for body shame. Get ready to love yourself and embrace all bodies! You can also catch Virgie Tovar hosting the podcast Rebel Eaters Club.



Virgie Tovar

An Evening with Virgie Tovar – Aug. 18, 7 p.m.
Reservations required: <https://bit.ly/VirgieSelfLove8-18-20>

OTSP Book Club: *You Have the Right to Remain Fat* by Virgie Tovar – Aug. 16, 2 p.m.
Reservations required: <https://bit.ly/OTSPBkClb8-16-20>

Get Inspired with Our Nature Boosts

Give your Friday lunch hour an extra breath of fresh air, and start your weekend off right with our Nature Boost Fridays! Just like our libraries, parks are for all and forever. Together, we created a weekly Nature Boost offering to help you connect with our local national parks, expand your knowledge of the flora, fauna and history, and enjoy these majestic spaces from the comfort and ease of your own home. Visit our Virtual Trailhead, sfpl.org/virtual_trailhead, for the full schedule and past episodes. Discover our nature craft series with artist Alison Farrell, NPS Ranger-led Spanish storytime featuring *La Caminata* as well as original storytelling, a peaceful, meditative virtual fieldtrip to our prized local gem Lands End and more. Plus, this month, we flip the script for a teen-focused Career Day with leaders from our local National Park.

Visit our Virtual Trailhead, sfpl.org/virtual_trailhead.

Seeking an outdoor literary adventure? Don your mask and head to the park for a StoryWalk. That's right, you can read on the trails and play in the park! Pages from children's books are put on signs and sprinkled along a trail. Thanks to Chronicle Books, Presidio Trust and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, there are two books and three different hikes to explore.

• *The Hike* by Alison Farrell is along the Presidio Promenade and Lands End Coastal Trail.



• *I Wrote You a Note* by Lizi Boyd returns to Mountain Lake.



Discrimination and Technology: Cut Through the Code with Ruha Benjamin



Ruha Benjamin

The Library is thrilled to announce an author talk with Ruha Benjamin, author of *Race After Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code*.

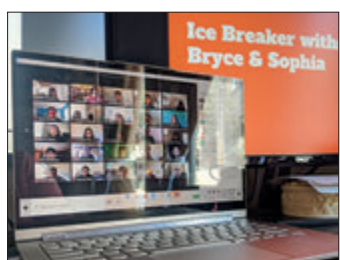
Cutting through tech-industry hype, Benjamin explores how emerging technologies reinforce white supremacy and details how discriminatory designs can encode inequity. She argues that automation has the potential to hide, speed up and deepen discrimination, all the while appearing neutral and even benevolent when compared to the racism of a previous era. The book makes

a compelling case for race itself as a kind of technology, designed to stratify and sanctify social injustice in the architecture of everyday life. Benjamin provides conceptual tools for decoding tech promises with sociologically informed skepticism, and challenges us to question not only the technologies we are sold but also the ones we ourselves manufacture.

Ruha Benjamin is an Associate Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University, studying the social dimensions of science, technology and medicine, is the founder of the JUST DATA Lab and also the author of *People's Science* (Stanford University Press, 2013) and editor of *Captivating Technology* (Duke University Press, 2019). She writes, teaches and speaks widely about the relationship between knowledge and power, race and citizenship, health and justice.

Ruha Benjamin – Aug. 5, 4 p.m. Reservations required: <https://bit.ly/RBenjamin8-5-20>

Lessons Learned from 2020 YELL Teens



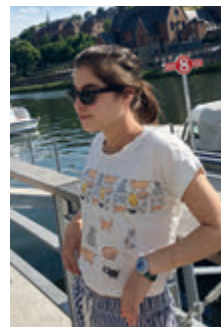
SFPL's virtual YELL program

This summer, 29 teens participated in the annual Youth Engaged in Library Leadership (YELL) internship program. The talented intern pool, who met twice a week from mid-June to August, successfully executed two Community Impact Projects to help youth and their families and seniors in San Francisco and beyond—all from their virtual desks—changing both the lives of others, as well as their own.

In their own words, two teens describe what they learned while applying and interviewing for YELL.

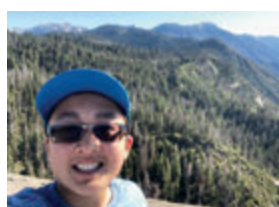
Sophia, a member of the STEM Challenge Team, used to visit Ortega Library constantly during middle school.

During the fall semester of my 9th grade year, I began searching for summer STEAM opportunities. I was immediately hit by a wave of nostalgia for the Library when I came across SFPL's YELL program. Although you cannot predict exactly how an interview is going to unfold, it's important to take preparation seriously and think through possible questions and practice your answers.



Another member of the STEM Challenge team is Bryce, who learned about the program through an eye-catching design.

The application process for YELL was very easy and straightforward, but the interview process made me a bit nervous since I had never interviewed that before. However, the interview went much better than expected and I was able to get into YELL, so that was marvelous!



Learn more about what the teens accomplished in our next *At the Library* newsletter, and read Sophia and Bryce's full stories in our August newsletter.

Plant Seeds with Your Reads: A California Native Plant Society Booklist



Golden Gate Gardening: The Complete Guide to Year-Round Food Gardening in the San Francisco Bay Area & Coastal California by Pamela Peirce

The California Wildlife Habitat Garden: How to Attract Bees, Butterflies, Birds, and Other Animals by Nancy Bauer

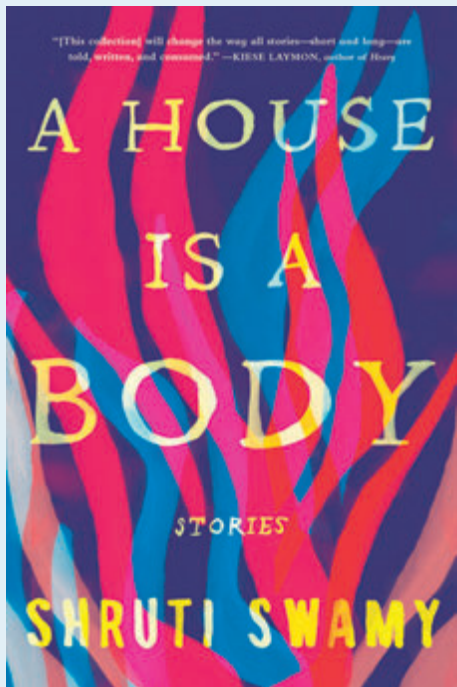


How to Window Box: Small-Space Plants to Grow Indoors Or Out by Chantal Aida Gordon and Ryan Benoit

The Humane Gardener: Nurturing A Backyard Habitat for Wildlife by Nancy Lawson



California Plants: A Guide to Our Iconic Flora by Jerry Brown and Matt Ritter



Brown Handler Resident Book Announcement

Shruti Swamy's book, *A House Is a Body: Stories*, comes out from Algonquin Books on Aug. 11, available wherever books are sold. For more information, visit ShrutiSwamy.com.

Friends Bookstore

Friends' Bookstore and Donation Center are temporarily closed. Visit FriendsSFPL.org for updates. Friends staff are currently observing Shelter in Place.

Donate to Friends at FriendsSFPL.org/Support

get social! with Friends

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Stay connected with all the latest happenings, events and deals at Friends! FriendsSFPL.org



Writing in Lockdown: Brown Handler Residents in Conversation with Lisa Brown and Daniel Handler

Two years ago, author/illustrator Lisa Brown (*The Phantom Twin*, *The Airport Book*) and author Daniel Handler (*A Series of Unfortunate Events*) created a Writer's Residency to provide local writers with free, adequate and accessible space to produce creative work in San Francisco. Residents were also able to work directly with the Library on creative endeavors in tandem with their creative projects.

Since shelter-in-place went into effect, the physical space that the residency offered has been put on pause, but the community built around the residency still thrives. To catch up with the five talented writers, Friends has launched a six-part interview series with the current residents. In the series, now available on our YouTube channel and on our Library Friends Podcast feed, Brown and Handler check in with all the talented residents about how they are adapting to creatively working from home.

Each writer shares an excerpt of what they worked on during their residency. Amanda Moore, a poet who draws inspiration from San Francisco and the neighborhoods she's lived in, shares poems that evoke the feeling of walking through the city. Shruti Swamy, a fiction writer, reads a story from her upcoming book *A House Is a Body*.

Don't miss these exciting conversations. Go to FriendsSFPL.org/Residency to watch and listen to them all.

Changes to Book Program

Friends is deeply saddened to announce several changes to the Book Program, brought about by a series of considerations resulting from the unexpected impacts of COVID-19 and long-term sustainability.

- The 2020 Big Book Sale has been canceled
- The Bookstore at Fort Mason Store will close permanently
- The Bookstore at the Main Library and Wednesday Step Sales are closed indefinitely and will re-open alongside the Library as we monitor the public health situation
- The Donation Center will open to book donations by the end of August at the latest

We do not underestimate the impact on our community from these difficult decisions. But we assure you that Friends is still committed to its Book Program and will continue to create and revive book-loving experiences as we journey through and beyond this pandemic. In the meantime, you can find our book offerings online at our bookstores at our Ebay and Amazon stores. Visit FriendsSFPL.org/Online to find out more.

When you think of buying books, please consider our stores. Along with donating to Friends, buying books for our stores (virtual for the moment) is the best way to support our great Library.



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 ■ 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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SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY
100 LARKIN STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

August 2020

In this Issue:

Page 1

SFPL To Go Is Here!

Summer Stride Comes to an Exciting Finale
Immerse Yourself in Red Power
100th Anniversary of US Women's Suffrage

Page 2

Summer of Self-Love with Author Virgie Tovar
Discrimination and Technology:
Cut Through the Code with Ruha Benjamin
Lessons Learned from 2020 YELL Teens
Get Inspired with Our Nature Boosts
A California Native Plant Society Booklist

Page 3

Friends Focus

Writing in Lockdown: Brown Handler
Residents in Conversation with Lisa Brown
and Daniel Handler
Brown Handler Resident Book Announcement
Changes to Book Program

Page 4

Virtual Library Event Calendar

Calling All Citizen Archivists! Help build the San Francisco Community Time Capsule. To participate, visit sfpl.org/covid19-time-capsule.



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.

At the Library is published monthly on recycled paper by the San Francisco Public Library with support and funding from Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

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

SFPL To Go Services

San Francisco Public Library is phasing in SFPL To Go, a contact-free front door pick-up service, at select locations (see article, page 1). Check back for updates on locations and hours and the latest on our response to COVID-19 here: sfpl.org/coronavirus and sfpl.org/services/library-closure-frequently-asked-questions-faqs



San Francisco Public Library

Visit Our Virtual Library!

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. For additional event and registration info, visit sfpl.org/virtual-library, sfpl.org/kids/virtual-library and sfpl.org/teen-virtual-library.

AUGUST 2020 VIRTUAL EVENT CALENDAR

Adults

Film: *Injunuity* with Tane Ross*
Saturday, Aug. 1
11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Reservations required.

San Francisco in Black & White (1951-1980)*
Sunday, Aug. 2
2–3:15 p.m.
A Photographic Retrospective of San Francisco's African-American Community.
Reservations required.

Author Talk: Ruha Benjamin, *Race After Technology**
Wednesday, Aug. 5
4–5 p.m.
Reservations required.

The Women of Red Power and Alcatraz*
Saturday, Aug. 8
11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Reservations required.

SF Mime Troupe – *Tales of the Resistance Discussion*
Saturdays, Aug. 8 & 22
3–4:15 p.m.
Post-listening discussion on our YouTube channel.

Author Talk: Marke Bieschke, *Into the Streets**
Wednesday, Aug. 12
7–8 p.m.
Reservations required.

Poem Jam with Kim Shuck and Guests
Thursday, Aug. 13
6–7:30 p.m.
Reservations required.

Re-Creation: A Play Paradigm*
Saturday, Aug. 15
EVENT CANCELLED
Jarrel Phillips.
Reservations required.

Author Talk: Virgie Tovar, *The Summer of Self-Love*
Tuesday, Aug. 18
7–8 p.m.
Reservations required.

Gardening for San Francisco's Butterflies and Pollinators
Saturday, Aug. 22
1–2 p.m.
Susan Karasof from the California Native Plant Society.

Resume Writing Essentials
Monday, Aug. 24
10–11:30 a.m.
Zoom platform.
Reservations required.

America's First Suffrage March and the San Francisco Women Who Led It*
Thursday, Aug. 27
6–7 p.m.
Evelyn Rose, Director of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project.
Reservations required.

Book Clubs

World Literature: Bertolt Brecht's *Galileo*
Thursday, Aug. 6
6–7:30 p.m.
Reservations required.

You Have the Right to Remain Fat
Sunday, Aug. 16
2–3 p.m.
Reservations required.
Related event: Aug. 18, Author Talk: Virgie Tovar.

Citizen by Claudia Rankine*
Monday, Aug. 17
7–8 p.m.
SFPL presents a Social Justice Book Club.
Reservations required.

Tech Tuesday
Featuring online resources the library subscribes to and other free online resources to help promote your small business, get a job, create graphics, or to get organized. For best results know your library card number and PIN.

Getting a City Job
Tuesday, Aug. 11
11 a.m.–12 p.m.
Reservations required.

eMusic at the Library
Tuesday, Aug. 25
11 a.m.–12 p.m.
Reservations required.

Elementary-Middle School Age

Parachute Design Challenge
Tuesday, Aug. 4
11–11:15 a.m.
Gather a plastic bag, string, scissors, pencil and a toy for this challenge with Librarian Joseph.
Tune in on YouTube.

Elementary School Age/Family

Reading with Reptiles with Tree Frog Treks
Wednesday, Aug. 5
11–11:30 a.m.
Tune in on YouTube

Songwriting for Young Change Makers with Alphabet Rockers
Wednesday, Aug. 12
11–11:50 a.m.
Register ahead of time for this Zoom program. Video will be posted on YouTube until Aug. 19.



*Event will be recorded.

