

# AT THE LIBRARY

Events and Happenings at San Francisco Public Library

April 2021

Vol. 52 No. 4

## SF's Newest Poet Laureate Delivers Inaugural Address



Tongo Eisen-Martin  
photo: Mabel Jiménez

That's my cousin eulogized now in literary history... wasn't pretty... this effect on my eternal soul

I tried to cry on the side (face in a sink full of alcohol)

Fine flowers of struggle  
that color spectrum the cousin  
who is dead if you brace yourself

It's hard to write without my friend

No Malcolm positions on East Coast warfare  
My friend---in the audience with the earth's coming mood

Mainland jazz

The organizing is all over me  
Let me divine you the Lenox Ave. of the future... the river just  
keeps riding freights town to town

Violent revolution in this very year  
Open your paper to us

Rulers of the night train  
Your humble dishwashers who lived to hum the details

To look into the future like a gentlesperson  
Three fifths of a typewriter

Do some math with me here in the absence of confidence  
The luxuries of a paranoia that you can finish later  
My friend died yesterday

Except from the poem "Don't repeat your neighborhood to anyone" by Tongo Eisen-Martin

In honor of National Poetry Month, San Francisco's newest Poet Laureate, Tongo Eisen-Martin, has planned his inaugural address as an evening of poetry and exposition on the revolutionary potentials of art.

Titled: *Unity and Struggle: A Collective Inaugural Address*, Eisen-Martin is joined by a stellar lineup of poets and friends, exploring the incarnation of craft as it exists in movements, renaissances and the people who pass us through.

### Featured guests:

**Marc Bamuthi Joseph**, a spoken-word poet, dancer, playwright and educator, who is also the vice president and artistic director of social impact for the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

**Biko Eisen-Martin**, the brother of Tongo Eisen-Martin, is a theater and film actor and visual artist. He is best known for his work in the films *Buck*, *Dietland* and *Finding Frida*, a film he wrote and directed.

**Mahogany L. Browne** is a writer, organizer, educator and author of the books *Woke: A Young Poets Call to Justice*, *Woke Baby*, *Black Girl Magic* and the YA novel *Chlorine Sky*.

**Jive Poetic** is a writer, organizer and educator. He is the founder of Insurgent Poets Society, Carnival Slam: Cultural Exchange and the co-founder of the Brooklyn Poetry Slam.

**Joyce Lee** is a writer, educator, performer, poet and an Oakland native whose gift with words and expression have made her an international talent. She has been featured at the Nuyorican Poetry Café.



From left: Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Biko Eisen-Martin, Mahogany L. Browne, Jive Poetic and Joyce Lee.

Eisen-Martin was appointed as San Francisco's 8th Poet Laureate in January by Mayor London N. Breed. He is an educator and organizer whose work has centered on issues of mass incarceration, as well as poet and founder of Black Freighter Press. His book *Heaven Is All Goodbyes* (City Lights, Pocket Poet series) received a 2018 American Book Award, the 2018 California Book Award for Poetry and was short-listed for the Griffin Poetry Prize.

His inaugural address is presented in partnership with Friends of San Francisco Public Library, City Lights and Litquake.

**Unity and Struggle: A Collective Inaugural Address featuring Tongo Eisen-Martin and special guests** – April 21, 6 p.m.

## At Home Delivery of Bookjoy This April



Families, join the Library and our many exciting performers and partners on the Library's YouTube Channel and at [diasf.org](https://diasf.org) to celebrate a virtual Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros. We bring the bookjoy to your living room.

Tune in for entertaining stories, dance to some music. Learn about special places throughout the City happy to welcome families safely. During the virtual celebration, expect to discover ideas to keep little hands busy and see some familiar faces saying hello.

Leading up to the virtual celebration, visit our SFPL To Go-Go sites or be on the lookout for the Librotero Cart for some fun Día giveaways; starting April 18, while supplies last.

Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros has been celebrated in San Francisco since 1999.

Our celebration has provided a beloved free literacy celebration for over two decades. Día was started in 1996 by author Pat Mora with support from Reforma and the Association for Library Service to Children. Día is a celebration of children, literacy and diversity.

For more details on Día San Francisco, the organizing team and resources featured in the virtual celebration, visit [diasf.org](https://diasf.org).

**Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros** – April 25, 12 p.m.

## The Main Library Turns 25

Happy silver anniversary to the Main Library building, which opened its doors on April 18, 1996.

Story and pop quiz on page 6.

### Coming Up:

**April 6**  
**It's fabulous to see you!**  
Portola Branch opens for SFPL  
To Go pick-up service April 6!

**May 5, 2 p.m.**  
Tony Robles

**May 20, 7 p.m.**  
TotalSF Book Club,  
Heather Knight, Peter Hartlaub  
and Alia Volz

**May 25, 7 p.m.**  
Chinatown Pretty



# Events, Collections and Services

get social!

SFPL.ORG

 [facebook.com/sfpl.org](https://facebook.com/sfpl.org)

 [twitter.com/SFPublicLibrary](https://twitter.com/SFPublicLibrary)

 [instagram.com/sfpubliclibrary](https://instagram.com/sfpubliclibrary)

 [youtube.com/user/SanFranciscoLibrary](https://youtube.com/user/SanFranciscoLibrary)



SFPL volunteers connect regularly on Zoom during the pandemic.

## Library Volunteers Shine

Every Tuesday afternoon and Thursday evening, SFPL volunteer Lindell Bruce sits down at the computer and gets ready to connect—in more ways than one. Bruce is a group leader for the Library's weekly online ESL Conversation groups, where he helps people practice their English and forges connections between learners from around the world.

"Sometimes we talk about a favorite dish from our country, why we love it and how to make it. Now I know how to use just tomatoes, cheese and just a few spices in at least a half dozen ways," Bruce says.

April is National Volunteer Month, and an excellent time to recognize the volunteers who have helped the Library stay in touch with the community in the months since COVID struck. Bruce and other volunteers, for instance, have been volunteering to lead the ESL conversation circles on Zoom since almost the beginning of COVID.

Renee Berger, another conversation group leader, notes that learners share stories, observations about American culture and book recommendations during their sessions. Some attendees battle time zone differences to join from across the globe, from Japan to Brazil to San Diego. "Learners have said that these gatherings give them a sense of community, a place for them to... learn about each other's worlds," Berger says.

The Library's technology volunteers have also been in play, helping patrons solve their tech problems online during drop-in sessions over the spring. And literacy tutors in all of the SFPL's tutoring programs have kept going with their learners, working on skills over Zoom or just staying in touch and checking in.

Stephen Crowe, a 'supertutor' with the SFPL's FOG Readers children's literacy program, co-hosts online sessions with program staff to help tutors learn from each other—which has been especially important as FOG Readers adapted to online lessons during the pandemic.



Stephen Crowe

"Engaging with other volunteers is terrific because I'm always learning something new. Our tutor meet-up sessions help me stay creative about lesson plans and activities for my student," Crowe says. "We're stronger as part of a group that shares the same mission."

In the past 12 months, Library volunteers have contributed hundreds of hours to promote literacy and essential skills, adapting to the virtual world and ensuring that Library services continue to thrive.

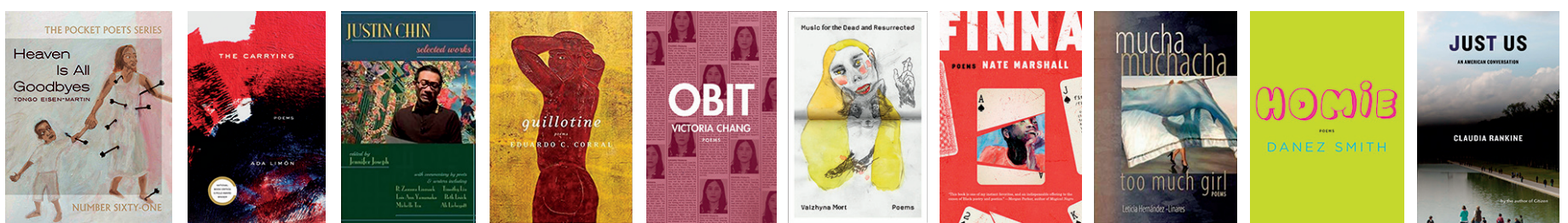
Thank you to the many volunteers who have made the Library a vibrant place for connection, this year and every year.

## LinkedIn Learning for Personal and Professional Success

On April 19, Lynda.com will become LinkedIn Learning, a dynamic e-Learning platform with more than 16,000 courses. Topics cover everything from the latest technologies to basic computer literacy to photography. Courses are extensive and diverse and now available in seven languages—English, French, German, Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese and Spanish.

For job seekers, LinkedIn Learning offers hundreds of expert-led courses on looking for work, such as "Essential Job Seeker Tips," a course designed to make the job search less overwhelming. Tips include learning to make your profile stand out, answering tricky interview questions, improving your résumé and getting the most value out of informational interviews.

Access LinkedIn Learning with your SFPL card at [sfpl.org/elearning](https://sfpl.org/elearning).



## Recommended Works for National Poetry Month

Poetry: literature distilled, prayers for the believer and non-believer alike, an examination of our world through language. The power to uplift, invite despair, create connections, encourage introspection; to bring joy and resilience and celebration. April is National Poetry Month, and is meant to remind us of the power and importance of poetry in our culture.

Let's read some poetry! You might want to start with a book from San Francisco's newly selected Poet Laureate, Tongo Eisen-Martin. Or maybe a variety of poets is more your speed; the SF Poet Laureate Emerita Kim Shuck has been curating a poem-of-the-day since the pandemic's shelter-in-place order was enacted in March of 2020. We invite you to begin your poetry search with these selections.

**Heaven Is All Goodbyes** by Tongo Eisen-Martin  
Poetry as revolution, here in San Francisco and the Bay.

**The Carrying** by Ada Limón  
Joy, grief, nature and interconnectedness.

**Justin Chin: Selected Works** by Justin Chin  
SF's own, with tributes to his work by other writers.

**Guillotine** by Eduardo C. Corral  
Loss, betrayal and danger from this Yale Younger Poet.

**Obit** by Victoria Chang  
Grief and acceptance, with happiness as a possibility.

**Music for the Dead and Resurrected** by Valzhyna Mort  
Devastation, atrocity and reclamation.

**Finna** by Nate Marshall  
Erasure of people, ownership and belonging.

**Mucha Muchacha/Too Much Girl** by Leticia Hernández-Linares  
Pride, flor y canto, flower and song.

**Homie** by Danez Smith  
Honest, exuberant, mournful.

**Just Us: An American Conversation** by Claudia Rankine  
A struggle for meaningful engagement and discussion about race.



## Join Chroniclers for a New SF-Themed Book Club

SFPL is honored to host our first TotalSF Book Club with San Francisco Chronicle columnist



Heather Knight and pop culture critic Peter Hartlaub, founders of TotalSF, which was created to highlight the wonder and whimsy of San Francisco and to remember why the City is worth fighting for. They launched the program with #TotalMuni2018 when they rode every Muni line in one day and have

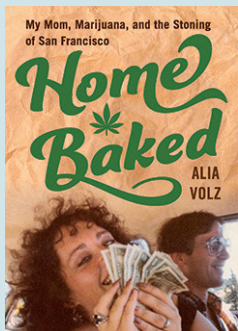


Peter Hartlaub and Heather Knight

continued their shenanigans by crafting a new 49 Mile Scenic Route that promotes walking

and bicycling, hosting San Francisco movie nights at the Balboa Theater, interviewing San Francisco characters on their TotalSF podcast and now the TotalSF book club.

We kick off the book club with local favorite Alia Volz and her book *Home Baked: My Mom, Marijuana, and the Stoning of San Francisco*, available in paperback April 20. Volz is in conversation with Knight and Harlaub on May 20, 7 p.m. Pick up *Home Baked* from your SFPL To Go location or your favorite local bookstore.



**TotalSF: Alia Volz, *Home Baked: My Mom, Marijuana, and the Stoning of San Francisco* – May 20, 7 p.m.**  
Registration: [bit.ly/TotalSF5-20-21](https://bit.ly/TotalSF5-20-21)

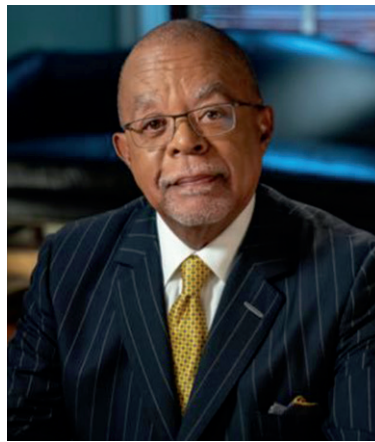
## In Our Words: New Tales of the City

City Stories presents stories of growing up in the San Francisco Bay Area. Emerging and established

writers reflect on intersectional and intergenerational stories of home, heritage and legacy. Featured readers include Alexandra Kostoulas, Joe Landini, Daphne Gottlieb, Yvonne Campbell, Dennis Estrada, and Rowena Choy Henry.

City Stories is a story sharing project organized and led by the San Francisco Creative Writing Institute, an inclusive community for creative writers of all genres and levels, which offers high quality education in creative writing at the grassroots level.

**Performance: City Stories** – April 18, 2 p.m.



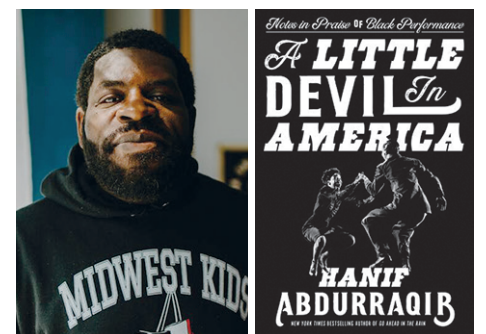
Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

## MoAD Partnership Features Illustrious Speakers

SFPL is honored to partner with Museum of African Diaspora for two events. As part of MoAD's new series *Conversations Across the Diaspora*, author and host Sarah Ladipo Manyika will be in conversation with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University. Professor Gates is a historian, filmmaker and public intellectual and has authored or co-authored 24 books and

created 21 documentary films, including *Wonders of the African World*, *African American Lives*, *Faces of America*, *Black in Latin America*, *Black America since MLK: And Still I Rise*, and *Africa's Great Civilizations*. *Finding Your Roots*, his groundbreaking genealogy series is now in its sixth season on PBS. *Conversations Across the Diaspora* series features exciting voices from Berlin to Harare, from Tamale to London and New York and everywhere in between. It includes everyone from actors to poets, scholars, athletes, entrepreneurs, architects, artists and more.

In the latter half of April, Hanif Abdurraqib will discuss his latest book, *A Little Devil in America*, an electrifying celebration of Black performances, cultures and communities in the United States. Abdurraqib is a poet, essayist and cultural critic from Columbus, Ohio.



Hanif Abdurraqib

**Conversations Across the Diaspora with Guest Henry Louis Gates, Jr.** – April 9, 12 p.m.

**Hanif Abdurraqib in Conversation, *A Little Devil in America*** – April 28, 6 p.m.

## Learn, Support and Survive with Resources for Sexual Violence Awareness Month

We continue events around our 16th One City One Book author Chanel Miller and her memoir *Know My Name* by offering events in connection to Sexual Violence Awareness Month, a campaign championed by Miller. The Library partners with SF Human Rights Commission's Office of SHARP (Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention) and the Department on the Status of Women with a panel of sexual assault survivors and advocates on the experiences, survival stories and needs of homeless and housing-insecure survivors. Good Vibrations Staff Sexologist Carol Queen, PhD, discusses sexual health, sex-positivity and consent.

**Homelessness and Sexual Violence** – April 2, 12 p.m.

**Healthy Sexual Relationships with Dr. Carol Queen** – April 13, 7 p.m.

**Virtual Healing Circle for Survivors of Childhood Sexual Assault** – April 20, 7 p.m.



From left: Dr. Carol Queen, Kaytea Petro, Ali Blum and Tyler Cohen.

**Know Your Name** is SFPL's series of events related to Miller's book. We explore a broad range of topics, from survivor resources, gender and system oppression, activism, healing through art, writing and movement. We hold space for a virtual healing circle for survivors of child sexual abuse, facilitated by Mirror Memoirs co-directors Amita Swadhin and Jaden Fields and core members Chris Cervantes and Lilac Vylette Maldonado. Come for a confidential and safe space in which survivors learn and ground themselves in altar creation, guided meditation, journaling and storytelling practices, collectively release feelings of grief and invite practices of joy.

**Kaytea Petro, Artist** – April 5, 7 p.m.

**NO! The Rape Documentary & Director Talk** – April 12, 7 p.m.

**Ali Blum, Artist** – April 19, 7 p.m.

**Tyler Cohen** – April 26, 7 p.m.





# National Finance Literacy Month

## We're No Robin Hood But... Increase Your Bounty with Our Financial Planning Programs

Clear your calendar for a packed month of events from the Business, Science and Technology Center. We are celebrating National Financial Literacy Month by offering a robust selection of events that support personal finance and teach how to develop and maintain healthy financial habits. We continue to support the needs of job seekers and small businesses, as well.

Carly Matthews, CFEI, a passionate financial literacy advocate, is the creator of a 4-part series for young adults and families. In partnership with other professionals—Alex Caswell, CFA, CFP®, Carrie Friedberg, MA, FBS®, and CFC and Craig Braemer, CFA, CFP®—she offers Why Money Psychology Matters; How to Budget and Save for Your Future; Investing for Beginners and Investing 101: How to Invest in Stocks.

Smart Money Coaching will offer two workshops: Saving with Purpose and Understanding Credit.

Tax wizard Heather Liston, CFP®, offers Your Financial Golden Years: Managing Taxes Around Retirement Time. BetterInvesting stock guru Harriet Chan presents an Introduction to Value Line Investment Survey Report and Dividends Investing for Beginners. For intermediate to advanced investors, we offer The ABCs of REITs with Rich Arzaga, CFP®, AIF® and Options Trading and Wealth Management: Manufacturing Money & Sleep with Jonathan Masse, a Registered Investment Advisor.

Wondering how to plan your estate? Learn the basics on these two dates. Stu Bronstein, Attorney at Law presents Estate Planning – What's It All About? and Ariel Siner, Attorney at Law, presents Estate Planning: Understanding the Basics.

On the job front, we are honored to have many professionals lending their expertise in support of job seekers and career changers. Tim Bombosch, PhD, offers Timely Tips for Successful Job Searches to teach proven strategies to help advance their career, even during hard times. He also presents in a session titled Advance Your Career Without Additional & Costly Degrees—Leveraging the Power of Continuing Education. Our partners at the Employment Development Department offer monthly programs on How to Apply for a State Job, Resume Writing and Interviewing Essentials. We partner with the Department of Human Resources for easy access to their workshops on How to Apply to the City and County of San Francisco. Our partners at Jewish Vocational Services continue to present outstanding workshops on topics such as LinkedIn – Beyond the Profile with David Robins, How to Ace Your Interview and Get the Job with Lynn Winter Gross and 50+ Job Search Strategy with David Robins. Shari Tishman is another outstanding presenter on LinkedIn who will offer Part Three of her job search series in mid-April.

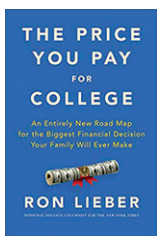
Small business entrepreneurs can gain start-up tips from Deyanira Arauz, Economist and Financial Wellbeing Coach of Operation Hope. The Foundation Directory Online by Candid offers monthly workshops for nonprofits on how to find grants using the database. Reference Solutions database educator, Bill Carlson, demonstrates how retail businesses can use the database to increase business. We are planning a 3-part series on How to Start a Small Business with Mark Bettini, MBA. Look for that series in May.

Resources for easy access to their workshops on How to Apply to the City and County of San Francisco. Our partners at Jewish Vocational Services continue to present outstanding workshops on topics such as LinkedIn – Beyond the Profile with David Robins, How to Ace Your Interview and Get the Job with Lynn Winter Gross and 50+ Job Search Strategy with David Robins. Shari Tishman is another outstanding presenter on LinkedIn who will offer Part Three of her job search series in mid-April.

To learn more about these programs and sign up, visit [sfpl.org/work-it](http://sfpl.org/work-it).



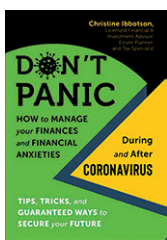
## Make a Plan for Your Financial Future with These Reads



### *The Price You Pay for College* by Ron Lieber

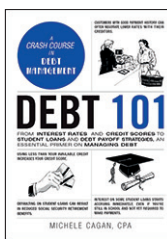
Lieber offers a roadmap to help families navigate this difficult and often

confusing journey.



### *Don't Panic: How to Manage Your Finances— and Financial Anxieties— During and After Coronavirus* by Christine Ibbotson

Tips from the “Ask the Money Lady” columnist.



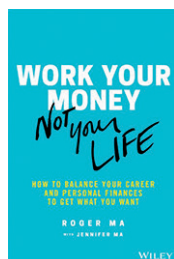
### *Debt 101: From Interest Rates and Credit Scores to Student Loans and Debt Payoff Strategies, An Essential Primer on Managing Debt* by Michele Cagan

An easy-to-follow guide to discovering how to pay off the debt you have plus learning how to use debt to your advantage.



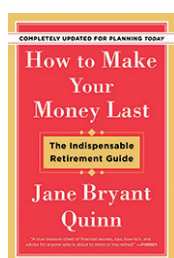
### *The Index Card: Why Personal Finance Doesn't Have to Be Complicated* by Helaine Olen

Ten rules for keeping your finances simple and manageable. A good starting point for those new to managing their finances.



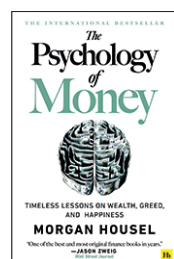
### *Work Your Money, Not Your Life: How to Balance Your Career and Personal Finances to Get What You Want* by Roger Ma

Advice from an award-winning financial planner and a publisher strategist at Google.



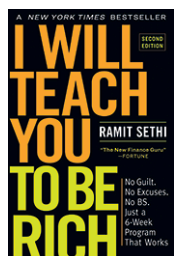
### *How to Make Your Money Last: The Indispensable Retirement Guide* by Jane Bryant Quinn

How to squeeze a higher income from all your assets and how much of your savings you can afford to spend every year without running out.



### *The Psychology of Money: Timeless Lessons on Wealth, Greed, and Happiness* by Morgan Housel

Housel shares 19 short stories exploring the strange ways people think about money and teaches you how to make better sense of one of life's most important topics.



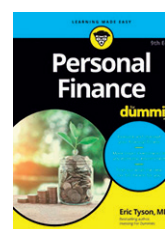
### *I Will Teach You to Be Rich* by Ramit Sethi

An updated and expanded modern money classic from this “wealth wizard.”



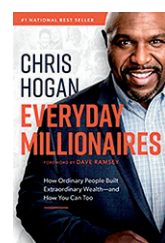
### *Don't Let Technology Crack Your Nest Egg: Rethinking Personal Finance for the Digital Age* by Ken Kamen

This book will be cautionary and eye-opening both to anyone with a nest egg to protect and to those just building one, in a world that is rapidly being transformed by technology.



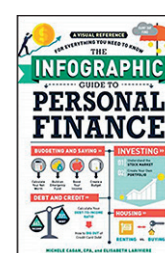
### *Personal Finance for Dummies* by Eric Tyson

Covers emerging investing interests like technology and global investing, cryptocurrencies, pot stocks and the lifestyle changes occurring with millennials.



### *Everyday Millionaires: How Ordinary People Built Extraordinary Wealth—and How You Can Too* by Chris Hogan

Ordinary people can become millionaires using Hogan's easy-to-follow advice.



### *The Infographic Guide to Personal Finance* by Michele Cagan

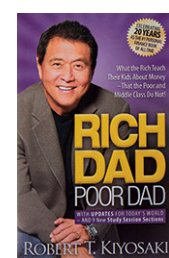
Delivers a tough topic in graphically appealing, digestible bites.



### *Budgeting 101: From Getting Out of Debt and Tracking Expenses to Setting Financial Goals and Building Your Savings, Your*

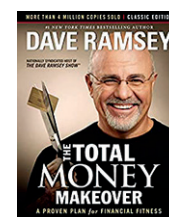
*Essential Guide to Budgeting* by Michele Cagan

Learn to create and stick to a budget.



### *Rich Dad Poor Dad: What the Rich Teach Their Kids About Money That the Poor and Middle Class Do Not!* by Robert T. Kiyosaki

A personal finance classic, translated into dozens of languages and sold around the world.



### *The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness* by Dave Ramsey

A classic personal finance book about saving and paying down debt. He effectively shows how regular people can rid themselves of debt and grow their wealth using current income.



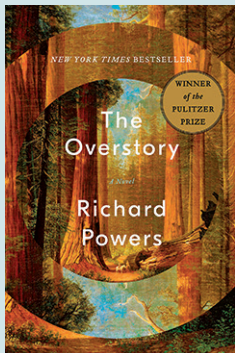
### *The Ultimate Retirement Guide for 50+* by Suze Orman

Includes advice for downsizing, spending wisely and delaying Social Security benefits.



# Earth Day and Climate Action Month

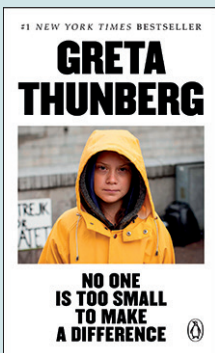
## Get Educated for Climate Action Month



**The Overstory**  
by Richard Powers  
Powers' 12th novel is a masterpiece of operatic proportions, involving nine central characters and more than half a century of American life.

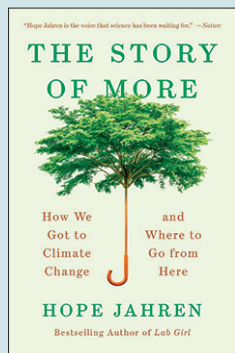
**No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference**  
by Greta Thunberg

A collection of articulate, forceful speeches made from September 2018 to September 2019 by the Swedish climate activist who was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize.



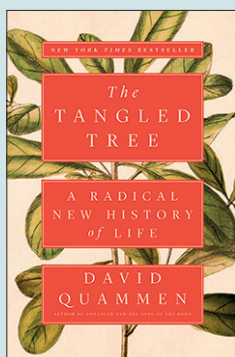
**The Story of More**  
by Hope Jahren

A concise and personal yet universally applicable examination of a problem that affects everyone on planet Earth.



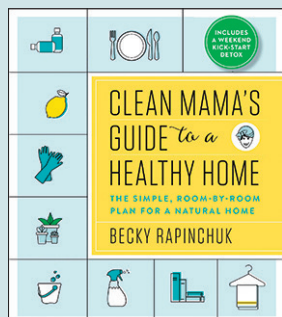
**The Tangled Tree: A Radical New History of Life**  
by David Quammen

A consistently engaging collection of vivid portraits of brilliant, driven, quarrelsome scientists in the process of dramatically altering the fundamentals of evolution, illuminated by the author's insightful commentary.



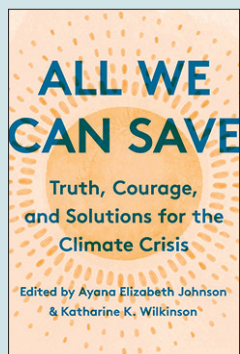
**Clean Mama's Guide to a Healthy Home**  
by Becky Rapinchuk

Clean Mama provides a step-by-step guide to take charge of your home's wellness with a comprehensive, all-natural cleaning system.



**Living Without Plastic: More Than 100 Easy Swaps for Home, Travel, Dining, Holidays, and Beyond**  
by Brigette Allen and Christine Wong

This illustrated book offers more than 100 suggestions.



**All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis**  
edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson  
A well-curated collection with many ideas for large and small ways to save the planet.

**Winning the Green New Deal: Why We Must, How We Can**  
by Varshini Prakash and Guido Girgenti  
Founders and supporters of the progressive Sunrise Movement join forces to argue for the Green New Deal.



Jane Kim of Ink Dwell Studio

## Refresh and Renew Your Commitment to Climate Action

SFPL is excited to host a series of events with the SF Department of Environment. On Saturday mornings in April, look for informative presentations presented by experts from SF Environment. Learn about the ways to create a healthy home, edible food recovery and the top 10 things you should know about climate change in San Francisco.

An exciting Earth Day art event comes your way with artist Jane Kim and writer Thayer Walker of Ink Dwell Studio, who present on their work and stunning public art. Kim and Walker create art that explores the wonders of the natural world, merging classical techniques of science illustration with modern fine art.

**Jane Kim and Thayer Walker, Ink Dwell Studio** – April 22, 7 p.m.



Art by Jane Kim



# Virtual Event Calendar

Visit [sfpl.org/virtual-library](http://sfpl.org/virtual-library), [sfpl.org/kids/virtual-library](http://sfpl.org/kids/virtual-library) and [sfpl.org/teen-virtual-library](http://sfpl.org/teen-virtual-library). You can also call us for assistance with registering for programs: (415) 557-4400.

## Adults

**1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Thursdays**

**ESL Conversation Group**  
6:30–7:30 p.m.

**2 Friday**

**Panel: Homelessness and Sexual Violence** 12–1:15 p.m.

**5 Monday**

**Know Your Name with Kaytea Petro, Artist**  
7–8:15 p.m.

**6, 13, 20, 27 Tuesdays**

**ESL Conversation Group**  
3–4 p.m.

**8 Thursday**

**Kim Shuck's Poem Jam, One City One Book Edition**  
6–7 p.m.

**9 Friday**

**Conversations Across the Diaspora with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.** 12–1 p.m.

**10 Saturday**

**Workshop: Healthy Homes**  
10–11:30 a.m.

**11 Sunday**

**16th Annual Poems Under the Dome** 4–6 p.m.

**12 Monday**

**Film: NO! The Rape Documentary & Director Talk, Aishah Shahidah Simmons** 7–9 p.m.

**13 Tuesday**

**The Hatchery: Nurturing Creative Writers of Color**  
6–8 p.m.

**Healthy Sexual Relationships with Dr. Carol Queen**  
7–8 p.m.

**14 Wednesday**

**San Francisco Genealogy Group** 1–3 p.m.

**Panel: Poor Magazine on How to Not Call the Po'lice Ever** 7–8 p.m.

**15 Thursday**

**Author: Donté Clark, Close Caskets** 7–8 p.m.

**17 Saturday**

**Climate Change, Top 10 Things You Should Know**  
10–11:30 a.m.

**18 Sunday**

**Performance: City Stories**  
2–3:30 p.m.

**19 Monday**

**Know Your Name with Ali Blum, Artist** 7–8:15 p.m.

**20 Tuesday**

**Virtual Healing Circle for Survivors of Childhood Sexual Assault** 7–8:30 p.m.

**21 Wednesday**

**Unity and Struggle: A Collective Inaugural Address** San Francisco Poet Laureate Tongo Eisen-Martin  
6–7:30 p.m.

**22 Thursday**

**Presentation: Jane Kim and Thayer Walker, Ink Dwell Studio** 7–8 p.m.

**24 Saturday**

**Edible Food Recovery during Covid-19**  
10–11:30 a.m.

**26 Monday**

**Know Your Name, with Tyler Cohen, Comic Artist**  
7–8:15 p.m.

**28 Wednesday**

**Author: Hanif Abdurraqib, A Little Devil in America**  
6–7 p.m.

## Book Clubs

**1 Thursday**

**Walt Whitman's, Drum-Taps**  
6–7:30 p.m.

**10 Saturday**

**N.K. Jemisin's The Fifth Season** 4–5 p.m.

## Tech Time

**20 Tuesday**

**Google Drive** 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

**27 Tuesday**

**Google Photos** 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

## Work it (Jobs, Business, Finance)

**1 Thursday**

**Timely Tips for Successful Job Searches** 10–11 a.m.

**How to Apply For a California State Job**  
1–2:30 p.m.

**2 Friday**

**Why Money Psychology Matters** 1:30–3 p.m.

**3 Saturday**

**Tools for Job Seekers**  
4–5 p.m.

**6 Tuesday**

**Your Financial Golden Years Managing Taxes Around Retirement** 12–1:30 p.m.

**7 Wednesday**

**Intro to Value Line Investment Survey Report** 2–4 p.m.

**8 Thursday**

**LinkedIn - Beyond the Profile** 10–11:30 a.m.

**9 Friday**

**Budget and Save for Your Future** 1:30–3 p.m.

**12 Monday**

**Reference Solutions Database for Retail Businesses** 10–11:30 a.m.

**13 Tuesday**

**Ace Your Interview and Get the Job** 10–11 a.m.

**Saving with Purpose** 1–2 p.m.

**14 Wednesday**

**Get Grants with Foundation Directory Online** 10–11 a.m.

**Start-Up Tips for Entrepreneurs** 4–5 p.m.

**15 Thursday**

**LinkedIn for Job Search, Part 3.** 4–5:15 p.m.

**16 Friday**

**Estate Planning - What's It All About?** 2–3 p.m.

**19 Monday**

**Resume Writing Essentials**  
1–2:30 p.m.

**20 Tuesday**

**Dividends Investing for Beginners** 2–4 p.m.

**21 Wednesday**

**50+ Job Search Strategy**  
10–11:30 a.m.

**Resume Writing** 12–1 p.m.

**22 Thursday**

**ABCs of REITs, Real Estate Investment Trusts** 2–3 p.m.

**23 Friday**

**Investing for Beginners**  
1:30–3 p.m.

**26 Monday**

**Options Trading and Wealth Management** 10–11:30 a.m.

**27 Tuesday**

**Understanding Credit** 2–3 p.m.

**Estate Planning: Understanding the Basics** 4–5 p.m.

**28 Wednesday**

**Advance Your Career Without Additional and Costly Degrees** 10–11 a.m.

**29 Thursday**

**Interviewing Essentials**  
1–2:30 p.m.

**30 Friday**

**How to Invest in Stocks**  
1:30–3 p.m.

## Youth

### Early Childhood/Family

**Sweet Stories**  
Tune in on Facebook.  
Every Monday, 10–10:15 a.m.  
Every Tuesday, 11–11:15 a.m.  
1st and 2nd Wednesday, 11–11:15 a.m.  
Cantonese/English  
3rd and 4th Wednesday, 11–11:15 a.m.  
Mandarin/English  
Every Thursday, 11–11:15 a.m.  
español/English

**11 Sunday**

**Sweet Stories with SFMOMA**  
Miss Kimberly reads, *Imogen: The Mother of Modernism and Three Boys* by Amy Novesky and illustrated by Lisa Congdon.  
Tune in at: [sfmoma.org/secondsundays](http://sfmoma.org/secondsundays). 11–11:15 a.m.

**25 Sunday**

**Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros Virtual Celebration**  
Tune in on Facebook and YouTube. 12–1:15 p.m.

## Elementary and Middle School Age

**28 Wednesday**

**Author: Oliver Chen**  
12–12:30 p.m.

## Teen

**2, 16, 23 Fridays**

**College Consultation Office Hours** 4–6 p.m.

**5 Monday**

**Mindfulness Workshop**  
5–6:30 p.m.

**21 Wednesday**

**Understanding Credit**  
3–4:30 p.m., 4:30–6 p.m.

**22 Thursday**

**Credits vs Debits**  
3–4:30 p.m., 4:30–6 p.m.

**ACT Test Prep**

**April 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 Monday-Friday**  
Session A, 3–4 p.m.  
Session B, 4:15–5:15 p.m.

**April 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 Monday-Friday**  
Session C, 6–7 p.m.

**SAT Test Prep**

**April 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 & May 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Monday-Friday**  
Session A, 3–4 p.m.  
Session B, 4–5 p.m.

# The Main Library Turns 25

Happy silver anniversary to the Main Library building, which opened its doors on April 18, 1996. Paid for by \$104.5 million in bond funds and \$22 million in private donations, the Main Library construction project was, at the time of completion, the largest public/private partnership in the history of San Francisco. Its Sierra White granite facade, obtained from the quarry that provided the stone for other Civic Center buildings, is consistent with its Beaux Arts style. The facade on Grove and Hyde streets has a more contemporary feel, compatible with the commercial activity on Market Street. It was designed by James Ingo Freed of Pei Cobb Freed & Partners (New York) and Cathy Simon of Simon Martin-Vegue Winkelstein & Moris (San Francisco).



Aerial view at construction of new Main Library exterior, June 5, 1995. Image courtesy of San Francisco History Center

## SFPL Main Library Pop Quiz

How well are you acquainted with San Francisco's largest public library building? Take this quiz and test your knowledge! Answers listed at the end of the quiz.

### History of the Main Library

1. Where was the very first San Francisco Public Library located?

- A) Pacific Hall, on Bush Street
- B) City Hall, Larkin Street wing
- C) 200 Larkin Street, current location of the Asian Art Museum
- D) 301 Van Ness, War Memorial Building

2. What year was the Main Library and its collection destroyed by a historic fire in the City?

- A) 1849
- B) 1851
- C) 1899
- D) 1906

3. What architectural firm worked on designing the Main Library building?

- A) Pei Cobb Freed & Partners of NY
- B) Bakewell & Brown of SF
- C) Beyer Blinder Belle of NY
- D) G. Albert Lansburgh

4. When did construction begin on the Main Library's current 100 Larkin Street site?

- A) 1989
- B) 1992
- C) 1993
- D) 1995

5. On what day did the new Main Library building open to the public in 1996?

- A) April 1
- B) April 18
- C) May 15
- D) June 3

### Lightning Statistics Round

6. How many floors are in the Main Library?

- A) 4
- B) 6
- C) 7
- D) 10

7. What is the square footage of the Main Library?

- A) 254,000 square feet
- B) 305,000 square feet
- C) 376,000 square feet
- D) 412,000 square feet

8. How many auditoriums does the Main Library have?

- A) None
- B) 1
- C) 2
- D) 5

9. How many items are in the Main Library's collection?

- A) Half a million
- B) Around 1.5 million
- C) Just under 2 million
- D) Around 3 million

10. How many works of art are on view at the Main Library?

- A) 1
- B) 5
- C) 7
- D) 11

11. How many reference desks are in the Library?

- A) 6
- B) 8
- C) 12
- D) 14

12. How many questions are fielded at the Main Library in one sample\* year? (\*Shelter-in-Place closure excepted)

- A) 100,000
- B) 250,000
- C) 300,000
- D) 650,000

Quiz answers: 1A, 2D, 3A, 4C, 5B, 6C, 7C, 8B, 9B, 10C, 11D, 12D



## Did you know?

• In 1962, Friends hosted the Library's first literary program, kicking off the series with a panel on censorship bringing Aldous Huxley, Christopher Isherwood, Mary McCarthy and Wallace Stenger to the Main.

• The Effie Lee Morris Lecture, now celebrating its 25th year, was established and is still funded by Friends to honor children's authors' lifetime achievements. Effie Lee Morris, an African American children's librarian, educator and activist, is best known for pioneering public library services for minorities and the visually impaired, including curating children's collections devoid of social stereotypes.

*"What is really needed to make our library system an excellent one is solid citizen support. We tried hard to get out in the community for support for every section of the population. We believe that every citizen has a responsibility to the library." – Marjorie Stern*

Coming in May, Chapter Three: SFPL in 1960s

## get social! *with Friends*

 [facebook.com/friendssfpl](https://facebook.com/friendssfpl)

 [twitter.com/friendssfpl](https://twitter.com/friendssfpl)

 [instagram.com/friendssfpl](https://instagram.com/friendssfpl)

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

## Friends Bookstore

Friends' Bookstore and Donation Center are temporarily

closed. Visit [FriendsSFPL.org](https://FriendsSFPL.org) for updates. Friends staff are currently observing Shelter in Place.

Donate to Friends at [FriendsSFPL.org/Support](https://FriendsSFPL.org/Support)

## Chapter Two: Visionary Librarians and Citizens Unite to Form an Activist Friends

**T**all, lanky and with a Texan drawl, William Holman assumed the position of City Librarian in 1960. Impressed by the plethora of bookstores, Holman told a reporter, "San Francisco is a bookish, unique city... and it certainly doesn't deserve a third-rate library." At its lowest point in 1959, only 1,500 books had been checked out, down from 12,000. In his first appearance before the Library Commission, Holman requested an emergency appropriation to fix an enormous backlog in cataloging and was told to wait for the City budget cycle a year later. Holman ultimately won a small increase, insufficient to prevent the closure of all libraries on Sundays.

Holman found two citizen groups rumored to be organizing for Library improvements—San Francisco for a Better Library and Friends of the Library, in the process of merging. A meeting hosted at the home of Mortimer and Janet Fleishhacker brought the groups together, along with the Blyth-Zellerbach Committee, a business coalition shaping San Francisco's redevelopment efforts, to finalize the creation of a single organization with a list of founding sponsors, including Walter Haas, Nion Tucker, Ms. Dean Whitter, and the Zellerbach, Bransten, Follis, Schwabacher and Gerbode families.



City Librarian William Holman [n.d.].  
Courtesy of San Francisco History Center



Rare Books and Special Collections Department at Main Library, 1966.  
Courtesy of San Francisco History Center

In 1966, Margaret Mayer, who had joined the public library cause through volunteering at Friends' book sales, was hired as the first paid Executive Director. Friends' first fundraising efforts furnished a new Rare Book Room, provided uniforms for security guards and established a scholarship fund for librarians. Mayer and Board members Mary Louise Stong and Marjorie Stern were unified in the belief that the grassroots citizenry, not just the elite, must join the library movement. They committed themselves to publicize the Library's dire budgetary situation and to build a grassroots membership organization for advocacy support.

The desire to fight for a reformed public library went well beyond its new leader and his alliance with the newly formed Friends. The librarians started a revolution from within, with librarians making smart and significant changes with flat budgets. Among the leaders was Effie Lee Morris, a nationally recognized children's librarian from the New York Public Library who served as the SFPL's first-ever children's services coordinator. With predominantly female leadership, the adult services department was created under Harriet Collopy, technical services and cataloging under Vivian Goodwin, branches under Mary Moses, and the Main under Avis Stoppel. Collections were reorganized more strategically by interest; 100,000s of books previously held behind reference desks were shelved for accessible public browsing, and the Business and Science Department opened.

Inadequate budgets still limited progress, but the coalition of Friends and the SFPL began to make headway with a steady and coordinated strategy. Holman figured out that he was more likely to obtain budget allocations from City Hall when he sent a series of small requests instead of large annual requests. When he made a budget request, he alerted Friends, who mobilized its members to visit City Hall to publicly and loudly back the requests. By 1965, this strategy paid off when the book-buying budget was raised from \$381,000 to \$500,000. By 1967, the overall Library budget was double what it had been in 1961.



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 ■ Bird & Beckett Books & Records ■ Bolerium Books
- Books, Inc. ■ Booksmith ■ Borderlands Books ■ Christopher's Books ■ Chronicle Books ■ Compass Books, Inc. ■
- Dog Eared Books ■ Eastwind Books ■ Globus Slavic Bookstore ■ Green Apple Books & Music ■ The Green Arcade
- Louie Brothers Book Store, Inc. ■ Marcus Book Stores ■ Omnivore Books on Food ■ San Francisco Botanical Gardens, Garden Bookstore ■



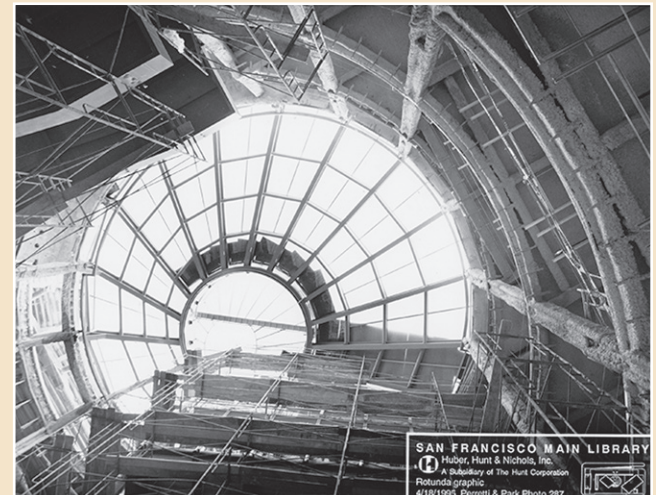
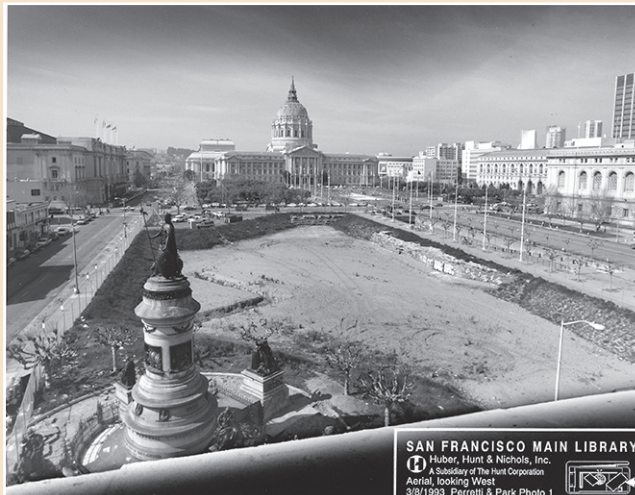
# AT THE LIBRARY

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## April 2021

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Clockwise from top left: Aerial, looking west at exterior construction of new Main Library, March 8, 1993. Construction of the rotunda in the new Main Library, April 18, 1995. Hoisting precast over Hyde & Grove Streets, Aug. 18, 1994. Construction of artists Ann Hamilton and Ann Chamberlain’s art project involving the pasting old catalog cards on walls in new Main Library, Sept. 18, 1995. Images courtesy of San Francisco History Center.

*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 San Francisco Public Library with support and funding from Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

Online version: [sfpl.org/atl](http://sfpl.org/atl)

### How to reach us

San Francisco Public Library  
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102  
Phone hours: Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
and Sunday, 12-5:30 p.m.  
(415) 557-4400 and (415) 557-4433 (TTY)  
Public Affairs email: [publicaffairs@sfpl.org](mailto:publicaffairs@sfpl.org)  
Website: [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org)

During the library closure, staff are available to assist by email or phone (TIP Line) Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 12-6 p.m.  
Online: Ask for eBook assistance or email [info@sfpl.org](mailto:info@sfpl.org)  
TIP Line: (See box at right)

**eBook Assistance:**  
[sfpl.org/books-and-media/ebook-collections](http://sfpl.org/books-and-media/ebook-collections)

**Assistance with Registering for Programs:**  
(415) 557-4400

### 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.

For additional event and registration info, visit [sfpl.org/virtual-library](http://sfpl.org/virtual-library), [sfpl.org/kids/virtual-library](http://sfpl.org/kids/virtual-library) and [sfpl.org/teen-virtual-library](http://sfpl.org/teen-virtual-library).



San Francisco Public Library

## SFPL To Go Locations

Information line for all library questions:  
(415) 557-4400.

**Main Library** 100 Larkin Street  
**Monday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.,**  
**Sunday: 12–5:30 p.m.**

### Branches

- Tuesday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.**
- ANZA 550 37th Ave.
  - BAYVIEW/LINDA BROOKS-BURTON 5075 3rd St.
  - EXCELSIOR 4400 Mission St.
  - EUREKA VALLEY/HARVEY MILK MEMORIAL  
1 José Sarria Court (at 16th St. near Market)
  - MARINA 1890 Chestnut St.
  - MERCED 155 Winston Drive
  - MISSION BAY 960 Fourth St.
  - PARK 1833 Page St.
  - PORTOLA 380 Bacon St. – as of April 6

**Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.**

- CHINATOWN 1135 Powell St.
- ORTEGA 3223 Ortega St.
- VISITACION VALLEY 201 Leland Ave.

### Bookmobiles

SFPL To Go-Go: Bookmobile Pop-up Pick-up Service

**Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2–6 p.m.**

- MIS Bookmobile at John O’Connell High School, Harrison and 20th Streets
- OMI Bookmobile at Jose Ortega Elementary School, 400 Sargent St.
- RIC Bookmobile at Roosevelt Middle School, Palm Ave. at Geary Blvd. Starts March 2.

**Wednesdays: 2–6 p.m.**

- Treasure Island Bookmobile
- OMI Bookmobile at Catholic Charities, 50 Broad St.



Call us. We’re here to help you!

### TIP LINE NUMBERS

Mon – Sat, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (415) 557-4400  
and Sun, 12 – 6 p.m. TTY (415) 557-4433

### YOUTH TIP LINE

Mon – Sat, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Youth Services Librarians  
and Sun, 12 – 6 p.m. (415) 557-4554

### PHONE LINES

如需協助, 請致電並留言 (粵語) (415) 757-9884

如需協助, 請致電並留言 (國語) (415) 757-9946

Para ayuda, llame y deje un mensaje: (415) 757-9889

За помощью позвоните и оставьте сообщение: (415) 757-9911

Để được trợ giúp, hãy gọi và để lại tin nhắn: (415) 757-9900

Para sa tulong, tumawag at mag-iwan ng mensahe: (415) 757-9937

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