

President's Message

FRIENDS AND PARTNERS

There is some confusion about Friends and Partners. Even Board members can find it confusing. In a nutshell, **Friends** make a membership contribution and become voting members of the organization. The contribution enables us to meet administrative overhead, and that enables us to use fundraising proceeds to directly benefit the Library. **Partners**, some of whom also pay dues to join as a voting member, are a group who makes a minimum yearly donation of \$100.00. Their gifts go directly to a fund for gifts to the Library outside of our yearly budget. None of it goes to cover our overhead. (We try to keep overhead low, but it does include things like insurance, office supplies, postage, newsletters, website, etc.)

ART FAIR

Years ago, when I was a young mother with limited time, I still wanted to contribute to the Friends beyond my annual dues. So, one day a month, for two hours, I worked a shift at the Art Fair. It wasn't much, but was what I could do at the time. I hope that some of our current Friends and Partners can make a place in their schedule to help us out as a volunteer.

ART FAIR – SOMETHING DIFFERENT

The Friends board uses our annual meeting in June to acknowledge our Friends and Volunteers. This year we would like to use the Art Fair to give back in a small way. I say small, because only one lucky person will take home a prize. This year, any Friend who stops by our information booth can enter a drawing for a special piece of art. If you also work a shift or bring a treat for the bake sale, you can enter your name again.

Margaret Quigley

57TH ANNUAL SIERRA MADRE ART FAIR

The 57th Annual Sierra Madre Art Fair, sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, will be held in Memorial Park, 222 West Sierra Madre Blvd., on **Saturday, May 4**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on **Sunday, May 5**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More than 70 artists, including 10 newly juried, have already committed to exhibiting, with more expected to commit this month. Mediums include oil paintings, jewelry, watercolors, glass, wood, metal, wearable art, photography, pottery, ceramics, mixed media, and weaving. The Art Fair will be the perfect place to buy Mom that wonderful Mother's Day gift or to buy upcoming graduation and wedding gifts, as well as to purchase pieces for your own enjoyment.

The Featured Artist this year is **Warren Yip**. His Maple and Balau wood sculpture, titled 'Giraffe,' will appear on all posters, post cards, flyers, and other promotional materials.

Live Music will be featured throughout the weekend in the band shell and on the southeast lawn. Guests can enjoy an eclectic selection of music. **Food vendors** will be offering a variety of food and drinks.

The **Friends of the Library** will have a booth selling its popular sweet 'quick' breads. For the children, instructors from the **Creative Arts Group** have planned a special craft activity – learn how to make pinwheels.

Again, this year we will feature a **Silent Auction**. So far, 30 artists have donated lovely, one-of-a-kind pieces for the auction, which means you'll have an opportunity to bid on some outstanding artwork and also support the Library.

To **Volunteer** at the Friends of the Library booth, Friends Food booth, Silent Auction, or as an area Host or Hostess, please contact **Darlene Traxler** at 626-355-6220 or dtraxler2000@gmail.com to let her know when and how you can help.

All Proceeds from the Art Fair benefit the Sierra Madre Public Library. For more information, visit us on Facebook, at our website www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org, or call 626-355-7186.

We look forward to seeing you May 4th and 5th!



Giraffe by Warren Yip

VOLUNTEERS AND BAKERS NEEDED FOR THE ART FAIR

The 57th Annual Sierra Madre Art Fair will be held in Memorial Park on **Saturday, May 4**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on **Sunday, May 5**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

During the Fair, we need people to help at the Friends of the Library booth, the Friends Food booth, the Silent Auction, and to act as area Hosts and Hostesses for the artists. Please contact **Darlene Traxler** at 626-355-6220 or by email at dtraxler2000@gmail.com to let her know how you can help.

Once again, the Friends will be selling loaves of sweet 'quick' breads, such as pumpkin, carrot, zucchini, spice, banana, etc., and we need help from everyone who loves to bake. If you can donate one or more loaves or have any questions, please contact **Darlene Traxler** at 626-355-6220 or dtraxler2000@gmail.com.

The Friends and the Library appreciate your time and effort and thank you for your support.

SUCCESSFUL DECLUTTERING WORKSHOP IN MARCH

A packed house eagerly took notes on March 9 as **Sarah Holden Ready** gave tips to pare down and declutter. As a Sierra Madre based professional organizer and owner of Room Service Home Organizing, Holden helps her clients free up more time and space in their lives for what matters to them most.

EXPERIENCE VIRTUAL REALITY

In addition to the popular Oculus Virtual Reality system, the Library has a VIVE, an easy-to-use way to experience Virtual Reality. Visitors, age 13 and older, can step into a realistic computer-generated virtual environment.

Virtual reality is a computer technology that uses a headset to generate realistic images simulating the operator's physical presence in an imaginary environment. Users can look around the artificial world, move around in it, and interact with virtual features and items. Stop by on **Saturday, April 6** between 12 Noon and 5:00 p.m.

TAKE THE ADULT READING CHALLENGE

Challenge yourself by reading a genre outside your comfort zone. Sign up, log your books, and receive monthly incentives quarterly and a Grand Prize drawing at the end of the year. You pick the book and read on your own; no meetings to attend. The April genre is War and/or Vietnam.

ANCESTRY.COM – THE ENTRÉE TO YOUR FAMILY TREE

Trace your family history at the Sierra Madre Public Library using Ancestry.com. This popular database includes over 10 billion genealogical records and is the world's largest online family history resource. Ancestry.com is available for in-Library use only.

ADULT CRAFT

Fun for all Spring craft – create a decorative bird nest on **Saturday, April 6** at 10:00 a.m.



CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

National Library Week, **April 7-13**, is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and library workers. From free access to books and online resources for families to library business centers that help support entrepreneurship and retraining, libraries offer opportunity to all. Gates Foundation Co-founder Melinda Gates will serve as 2019 National Library Week Honorary Chair.

In honor of National Library Week, the Library will offer these programs:

Children's Planting Craft on **Saturday, April 13** from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the patio in front of the Library. Use your imagination to decorate a pot and plant your own sunflower to welcome spring.

Coffee House Writers Group will inspire the writers in us when they share the wisdom and know-how of professional writers at the Library on **Saturday, April 13** at 1:00 p.m. Authors include: Mary Steinbronner Lugo, Stacey Roberts, Brian Shrout, Eric von Mizener, Rick Stepp-Boling and Stephen McCarthy.

The Group was formed to provide writers with a supportive and helpful environment to gain feedback from other writers. They achieve that through writer's critique groups that meet weekly at five locations. Everyone is welcome. The organization provides opportunities for their published authors to promote and sell their work at annual writer's festivals, such as the L.A. Times Festival of Books. CHWG also partners with non-profit organizations to provide their writers with other venues to promote their work.

Coffee House Writers Group organizes monthly workshops where writers are exposed to other writers who share some of their education, training and experiences. To reach the Coffee House Writers Group go to <http://chwritersgroup.org>.

The Nancy Edwards Dance Theater, back by popular demand, performs innovative modern dance on **Saturday, April 13** at 4:30 p.m. The Library was fortunate to host a delightful performance by the group last summer.

The dance troupe presents storytelling through movement using literature and audience prompts to create a one-of-a-kind dance experience.

TEEN GIANT SCRABBLE

This classic game gets even more exciting when it's giant! Young adults in Grades 6 to 12 are invited to play. Teams will compete on **Wednesday, April 17** at 4:00 p.m. for a trophy made on our very own 3D printer.

TEEN POETRY CONTEST

Middle and High School students can still submit original poems to the Library. Any kind of poetry is accepted and encouraged. Entries are limited to five poems per person.

There will be a First, Second, and Third prize for every individual grade. Deadline for submissions is **Saturday, March 30**. Prizes will be awarded and winners announced on **Wednesday, April 10** at 4:00 p.m. in the Library, right before our Blackout Poetry craft begins, during National Poetry Month and National Library Week!

THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

The Things They Carried, by Tim O'Brien, is the book to be discussed on **April 18** at 11:00 a.m.

BEST USED BOOK SALE

Our April Best Used Book Sale will be held on **Friday, April 5** from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and **Saturday, April 6** from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Spring is here!

The Basement will feature a **BUY ONE – GET ONE FREE** Cookbook Sale (less or same price) including many by famous chefs. Gardening, Crafting (including Quilting books) and Decorating Books will also be available for all your Spring projects. Come early for the best selection.

There will be a group of Easton Press Collector's Edition books in perfect condition with leather covers, and *The Oxford Illustrated Dickens* set. We also have some beautiful copies of *The Bibliophile Library of Literature, Art, Rare Manuscripts* with elegant etchings. DVDs, CDs and Audio Books in the Basement will be **HALF-PRICE**.

The Parking Lot will have our usual selection of Bargain Books for only \$1.00 each. All Bargain Books have been selected since our last sale and many bargains may be found. Also in the Parking Lot will be small paperbacks 25 cents each or 5/\$1.00 and Children's/Teen books from 25 cents to \$1.00. And don't forget that we will be having a **\$5.00 BAG SALE** on **Saturday** in the Parking Lot!

The sale will be held behind the Sierra Madre Public Library, rain or shine, and is sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library. All proceeds are used to support the programs, services and acquisitions for the Library. See you at the April sale!

PARTNERS PROGRAM

Another month has flown by - we are still recalling the gathering of the *Partners* that took place in February - thank you again to all who were able to attend - connecting with each other is so important to the success of the *Partners Program*. We appreciate Carol Cerrina, Joan Crow, Maggie & Michael Ellis and Sharon K. Marsh for renewing your Partnership for another year. **You** are making a difference in the life of our Library!!

SAVE THE DATE! FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Invite You To:

The 49th Wine and Cuisine Tasting

This event will take place at Alverno's Villa Del Sol de Oro

Premier Event: 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. Limited to 100 guests. \$80

Premium Wines • Specialty Foods

Door Prizes • Access to Main Event

Main Event: 7:00 to 9:30 P.M. Limited to 400 guests. \$60

Domestic and International Wines • Fine Local Restaurants

Door Prizes • Magic Castle Magicians • Live Music

Silent Auction • Fine Art

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee will meet in April to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library for 2019-2020.

We are still in need of: President, 1st Vice President Governance, Volunteer Development, and Chair (or co-chairs) for the 2020 Sierra Madre Art Fair. There are also a few Director at Large positions available.

If you have an interest in joining the Board, any of the committees, or have any questions, please contact me at 626-627-5957 or hawksmom87@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Teresa Chaure

READER'S REVIEW



This month's review is by Lida Bushloper

Vox

By Christina Dalcher

If you like dystopian, feminist, political novels, this one's for you. Many reviewers have compared it to Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, with some justification. But this novel has more elements of a thriller than Atwood's book. There's more action, and also more gore and onstage violence, including the shooting death of a lab chimpanzee. (I'm not giving away anything crucial here). It's not for the faint-hearted. The story opens in a United States where females of all ages are restricted to only 100 words per day, kept in check by wrist cuffs that deliver painful and increasing shocks for violations. Women no longer can work outside the home (except in prison camps), own passports, or vote. They are also forbidden other kinds of communication, including sign language and the written word. The repression extends to any deviation from sanctioned marital sex and the punishments are public, quick, and archaic. The media is limited to a few government-approved sources, education is segregated by gender and males have only slightly more freedoms than females in this new society. But there is an underground, about which the protagonist, Jean McClellan, gradually becomes aware. McClellan is a doctor of neurolinguistics, and when the all-controlling, right-wing government suddenly needs her unique skills to cure the President's brother after a brain injury, McClellan sees a chance, although a slim one, to fight back. In this, she manages to enlist allies, including her former research colleagues, thus both temporarily freeing them and endangering them, as well as her family.

The book posits several quandaries. Who do you save, if you have to choose? What are you willing to do to be free? When do you run and when do you stay and fight? Are there conditions under which hate and killing is justified? There's much emphasis on each person's individual responsibility for creating the world we all live in, for accepting responsibility for our choices. But this slight preachiness is kept to a minimum. The focus is on the action, character development and evolving relationships between people. The book is very harsh on the right-wing religious conquerors and their minions, so they take on cartoon dimensions, and the book has not the richness and depth of Atwood's novel. Still, it was a page turner which kept me reading, eager to know the answers to the eternal question fiction readers ask: What happens next?

Call #: FIC DALCHER

LIBRARY DISPLAY CASE

The April display case will feature the 57th Annual Sierra Madre Art Fair sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



4/1	9:00 a.m.	Baby Rhyme Time
4/1	10:00 a.m.	Storytime
4/2	2:00-5:00 p.m.	LEGO Play Day
4/3	4:00 p.m.	Teen Advisory Board
4/3	7:00 p.m.	Pajama Storytime
4/5	3:00-7:00 p.m.	Best Used Book Sale
4/6	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Best Used Book Sale
4/6	10:00 a.m.	Adult Craft — <i>Decorative Bird Nest</i>
4/6	12 Noon-5:00 p.m.	Virtual Reality
4/6	12 Noon-5:00 p.m.	Tabletop Board Games & Coloring
4/7 to 4/13	CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK	
4/8	9:00 a.m.	Baby Rhyme Time
4/8	10:00 a.m.	Storytime
4/9	2:00-5:00 p.m.	LEGO Play Day
4/10	2:30 p.m.	Cricut Basic Intro Workshop
4/10	4:00 p.m.	TEEN POETRY CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED
4/10	4:00 p.m.	Middle School Crafty Book Club — <i>The Tell</i>
		<i>Tale Start</i> and Blackout Poetry Activity
4/11	3:30 p.m.	Barks & Books
4/13	11:00 a.m.	Children's Planting Craft
4/13	1:00 p.m.	Author Panel from the Coffee House Writers Group
4/13	4:30 p.m.	Nancy Edwards Dance Theater
4/15	9:00 a.m.	Baby Rhyme Time
4/15	10:00 a.m.	Storytime
4/16	2:00-5:00 p.m.	LEGO Play Day
4/17	4:00 p.m.	Teen Activity Day — <i>Giant Scrabble</i>
4/17	7:00 p.m.	Friends Board Meeting
4/18	11:00 a.m.	3 rd Thursday Book Club
4/20	12 Noon-5:00 p.m.	Tabletop Board Games & Coloring
4/22	9:00 a.m.	Baby Rhyme Time
4/22	10:00 a.m.	Storytime
4/23	2:00-5:00 p.m.	LEGO Play Day
4/24	7:00 p.m.	Library Trustees Board Meeting
4/27	10:00 a.m.	3D Printing Workshop
4/27	12 Noon-5:00 p.m.	Tabletop Board Games & Coloring
4/29	9:00 a.m.	Baby Rhyme Time
4/29	10:00 a.m.	Storytime
4/30	2:00-5:00 p.m.	LEGO Play Day

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Enjoy an hour of reading, songs, music and crafts. Mondays at 10:00 a.m. and the first Wednesday (Pajama Storytime) of every month at 7:00 p.m. For ages 1 and up.

BABY RHYME TIME

Families with babies from birth to age 2 will love this program, full of bonding and rhyming with a parent network on Mondays at 9:00 a.m.

BARKS AND BOOKS

Children in grades K-3 are invited to read to a gentle and specially trained dog on Thursday, April 11 and on the second Thursday of every month, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

TEEN SCENE

Weekly activities, snacks and volunteer opportunities for Middle School and High School students at the Sierra Madre Public Library.

Teen Advisory Board — First Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. — Plan programs, earn service credit.

Middle School Crafty Book Club — Second Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. — Chat and create a craft with a monthly book selection.

Do Something FUN Activity Day — Third Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. — Play to win bragging rights and de-stress.

SIERRA MADRE HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

Explore local history in the Library archives, jointly owned and maintained by the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society and the Library. For research assistance, please call 626-355-7186.

Read, Discover, Connect @ Sierra Madre Public Library

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
 Thursdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Closed Fridays, Sundays and Holidays

LIBRARY HOURS

www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/

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 Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186
 TEXT (626) 662-1254

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