



# FRIENDS of the Sierra Madre Library

FOUNDED IN 1953

September 2019

## President's Message

Dear Friends and Partners of the Sierra Madre Library,

As I said in our last newsletter, "See you in September..." Well, September is here all too quickly. But, the time between our last newsletter and this one was not spent idly. The Friends Board voted to pay for an architectural drawing of a proposed new Library on the current site. A committee chaired by Toni Buckner (past Sierra Madre City Librarian) and 4 other prominent Friends recommended PBWS Architects out of three architectural company bids to compose a drawing of our potential new Library. The Friends Board and the Library Board of Trustees met to accept the recommendation of this committee, and work has begun on the drawings. There will be several community input meetings in October and November. Please stay posted on these upcoming dates.

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, the Friends co-sponsored a very fun Concert in the Park along with the Kiwanis Club featuring the tribute band, SGT. PEPPERS, playing Beatles songs. Our 50/50 raffle and lemonade donations made nearly \$400 since the winner of the raffle donated their portion back to the Friends. Thank you!

Also very active, was the committee of the **Best Used Book Sale** with a "Back to School" Theme on August 2 and 3. **Martha Troedson** and Friends braved the 100+ degree heat to conduct this sale. It was extremely successful. Thank you to all of our volunteers for making this happen.

I am also very happy to report that we are increasing our number of Friends memberships. Please ask your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to become a Friend this year. It is even easier to join now that payment can be submitted online on our web site.

And, last but definitely not least, is our upcoming **49<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine and Cuisine Tasting Benefit** on **Friday, September 27** at Alverno's Villa del Sol d'Oro. **Leslie Ziff** and her fantastic committee have been working extremely hard to provide an unforgettable evening of fun, food, entertainment, and wine tasting. There will also be an incredible silent auction. You can now buy your tickets at the Library, 3 stores in town or on 2 web sites. I hope to see you all there.

**Julia Brady**

## FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER

On Wednesday, June 19, the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library held their annual meeting and volunteer appreciation dinner at Sierra Madre United Methodist Church.

The dinner, themed "Soaring to New Heights," was attended by over 60 community members, including Board Members, Trustees, City Officials, Volunteers and Guests.

President **Margaret Quigley** welcomed participants, made introductions and expressed gratitude to all the volunteers who make the Library such a vibrant part of the community.

**Christine Smart**, City Librarian, thanked the Friends, City Council and Library Staff for their continued support and specifically acknowledged Staff on their dedication to providing excellent customer service.

**Shannon King**, Chair of the Library Trustees, thanked Patricia Hall for her leadership and wisdom. She also thanked the Friends for the many years of financial support of the Library and concluded by acknowledging the Partners Program.

**Patricia Hall**, Sierra Madre Library Foundation, reported they are waiting for finalization of the 501(c)3 status. Brochures will be coming out in July and in late August the Trustees will be making presentations at schools. The RFP is complete and is going to an architect. Toni Buckner will chair the panel for interviews and the Foundation, Friends and Trustees will make up the panel.

**Volunteer Recognition** — Margaret introduced Darlene Traxler, Sharon Murphy, Martha Troedson and Leslie Ziff, and asked that they speak about the volunteers who served this year for our fundraising events.

Margaret spoke of the death of Treasurer **Sandra Dickey**, and said that financial accounting had been delayed, but that we looked to be on budget.

**Beth Smith-Kellock**, Partners Program Chair, recognized those Partners in attendance and thanked them for their continued support. She gave a brief explanation of the Program stating that membership levels range from \$100 to \$500+ and is an annual contribution separate from a Friends membership. Revenue over the past 10 years have brought in over \$75,000.

**Margaret Quigley** recognized and thanked departing board members Tom Brady, Vicky Ryan, Frances Smith, Teresa Chaure, and Pete Siberell for their years of dedication and outstanding service to the Friends.

**Teresa Chaure**, VP Governance, announced the slate of Board nominees for 2019-2020. The following were elected: Officers — Julia Brady, President; Margaret Quigley, VP Governance; Beth Smith-Kellock, VP Development (Partners Program/MTEF); Julie Bencosme, Recording Secretary; Darlene Traxler, Corresponding Secretary. Directors at Large — Leslie Ziff; Beth Kerns; Doug Kerns; Emmett McGuire; Sharon Murphy; Mimi Young; Marcielle Brandler; and Stephen Henson. (Leslie Ziff will serve as Wine Tasting Chair; Beth Kerns will serve as Membership Chair; and Sharon Murphy will serve as Newsletter/Website Chair). We are still in need of an Art Fair Chair.

**Margaret Quigley** introduced incoming President Julia Brady, and turned the microphone over to Julia to speak a few words.

## MEET LEILA REGAN NEW YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

The Library is delighted to welcome our new Youth Services Librarian! **Leila Regan** will be in charge of all programming for Children and Teen events. Here are a few words directly from her:

Dear Friends,

New school year, new books, new faces. I'm Leila Regan, the new Youth Services Librarian. I was born and raised in Hawaii and received my bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. I am currently living in Monrovia with my family, worked at the Monrovia Public Library, and in 2018 finished my Master of Library and Information Science degree from San Jose State University, before joining the Sierra Madre Public Library. I look forward to learning more about the community of Sierra Madre and I've enjoyed everything I've experienced. A welcoming big smile is how I've greeted families, employees and friends at the Library. I can't help it; I'm overjoyed to be here. I'm a dog person, a special needs mom to a beautiful little girl, a novice knitter and an enthusiastically bad singer. Come see my smile in person at the Library!



## SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS THE JOY LUCK CLUB

Join us at the Library on **Thursday, September 19** at 12 noon when members of the Sierra Madre Playhouse will perform a scene from their current production of *The Joy Luck Club* by Susan Kim, adapted from the novel by Amy Tan. Running August 24 through October 5 at the Sierra Madre Playhouse.

## COFFEE CUPPING WITH JONES COFFEE ROASTERS

On **Saturday, September 28** at 10:00 a.m.

Jones Coffee Roasters will be at the Library for a fun and informative coffee tasting demo of various roasts for various taste buds.



## CRAFT IT! DIY FAUX LEATHER CORD HOLDER

Get those unruly cords under control with a faux leather cord holder designed by you on **Saturday, September 14** at 10:00 a.m. Get there early and bring only your creativity as all supplies will be provided but are limited.

## CHAIN REACTION MACHINE CHALLENGE

What is a chain reaction machine? A chain reaction machine is made up of everyday objects and is designed to accomplish a simple task in a silly and complicated way. Calling all building buddies! Want to take a crack at building the most complicated device to perform a simple task? What if there's a PRIZE to be had? Join us on **Thursday, September 26** at 4:00 p.m. as we learn how to build chain reaction machines and then see who can build the most elaborate series of actions.

## STATION-TO-STATION: STEAM OPEN HOUSE

Join us the third Saturday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. when the Library's Station-to-Station STEAM event will be front and center. Attend a 3D Printing Workshop at 10:00 a.m. and afterward print your very own item for free! Size restrictions apply. Then stroll over to the Cricut, learn about die-cutting and its applications, and create your projects with confidence. Finally, need a break from the real world? Both Virtual Reality stations will be geared up and ready to take you worlds away! Begins **Saturday, September 21**.

## GETTING A COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

On **Saturday, September 7** at 12 Noon find out what scholarships are available for college-bound students and when and how to apply for them.

**Christian Hansen** has helped thousands of struggling students and their families prepare for, get into, and pay for college. Throughout his career as an admissions officer as well as a financial aid and scholarship counselor at two top 50 ranked universities, he knows the insider strategies that really work.

These step-by-step strategies have helped thousands of other students successfully prepare for, get into, and pay for college.

## COLLEGE ESSAY OUTLINING WORKSHOP

Learning how to write the college essay is a critical part of your college admissions process.

Join us to learn college essay prompts, components and topics to help outline and confidently write your perfect, personal college essay. On **Saturday, September 7** at 11:00 a.m.



## TEEN BAD ART NIGHT

On **Wednesday, September 18** at 4:00 p.m. Do Your Worst! We challenge you to make the worst piece of intricate and detailed art for a chance to win the prize of ultimate bad artist. Who's bad? Hopefully, it's you!

## FALL ART WORKSHOP

School-age children can enjoy this fall-themed group art session by Mission: Renaissance Fine Art on **Monday, September 9** at 3:00 p.m. Learn about fine art fundamentals. Space is limited; pre-registration is advised.

## LEGO CHALLENGE

Are you ready for a challenge? Join us every Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. and try to build our LEGO creation! If you try, you get a prize. The best is kept on display each week with a GRAND PRIZE winner picked at the end of the month to be featured on the Library's Facebook and Instagram pages. Let's build something amazing!

## SATURDAY MORNING FEVER

On **Saturday, September 21** at 9:00 a.m. RISE, SHINE & BOOGIE with us as we learn through movement.

Expect some structured dances (who still knows YMCA?) and some time for free movement and expression. There will also be coffee for grown-ups. For children in preschool.

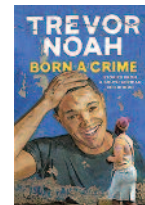
**\*\*Please note** there may be flashing lights, change in light brightness and bubbles.

## CRICUT WORKSHOP

Stop by and learn the fundamentals of Cricut with a Library staff member on **Wednesday, September 18** at 5:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

## THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

Enjoy an energetic, lively book discussion for adults on **September 19** at 11:00 a.m. In September, we are reading *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah.



## JOIN US FOR A HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library's **49th Wine and Cuisine Tasting Benefit** will be held on **Friday, September 27**. This "Harvest Festival of Wine and Cuisine" will take place again at Alverno's beautiful Villa del Sol d'Oro.

Tickets are on sale at The Sierra Madre Library, The Bottle Shop, Savor The Flavor and Arnold's Hardware and at 2 websites: [www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org](http://www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org) OR [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

Our 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit will include:

**Premier Event:** \$80 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Limited to 100 guests  
Premium wines from Riboli Family Wine Estates/San Antonio Winery. Appetizers provided by Sierra Fusion and Poppy Cake Baking Company. Magician Richard Freeman will astound you with his talents. All Premier participants will have access to the Main Event.

**Main Event:** \$60 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. Limited to 400 guests

Domestic and International Wines. Fine Local Restaurants. Door Prizes. Magic Castle Magicians. Live Music. Silent Auction. Fine Art.

The committee would like to thank Featured Artist **Jane Brackman** who has designed and donated this year's art work, an original watercolor titled "First Harvest."

Enjoy a beautiful evening under the stars at the Villa. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the Fall Harvest season with the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library!

The proceeds from this benefit help support the Library's programs for children and adults throughout the year.



*First Harvest* by Jane Brackman

## BEST USED BOOK SALE

The August Best Used Book Sale earned a total of \$2,096.41. Added to presales for the month of July, the total earnings for the month were \$2,786.88. Many thanks to our workers and loyal shoppers who braved the heat to come to the sale! We are looking forward to the October Sale. It will be held on **Friday, October 4** from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and **Saturday, October 5** from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Small paperback books in good condition are needed for this sale.

## PARTNERS PROGRAM

Our long hot summer is waning but not so for our loyal **PARTNERS** - who have continued to support our Library through annual donations to the current needs and future Library plans. Sincere thanks to Pat & De Alcorn, Alice & Eric Clark, Christine Gladish, Sue & Dave Hart, Toni Navarro, Debra Ross, William Sargent & Nancy Wischhusen, Darlene Traxler and Jane Zamanzadeh. Much work and planning lies ahead as we plan a new future for our Library and your dedication is greatly valued. **THANK YOU** for your caring and generosity.

## LIBRARY DISPLAY CASE

In September, the display case will feature information about the upcoming **Wine & Cuisine Tasting Benefit** hosted by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library.

## READER'S REVIEW

This month's review is by  
**Tom Tomlinson**

***The Library Book***  
by **Susan Orlean**



How timely is the appearance of *The Library Book* for any community like Sierra Madre whose Library opened in 1887, 20 years before the city incorporated! Orlean's splendidly crafted homage to libraries throughout the world but especially in the United States and in Los Angeles is an act of extraordinary research, detail, knitted together by moving prose of wit and love; throughout *Library Book*, she reminds us why libraries matter.

For Orlean, libraries are institutions of remembrance, order, and, as they are admission free, they foster a "publicness" not always discovered in contemporary society. By remembrance, she understands the preservation of the past and discussions of the future; by order, the organization of the collection in ways that are made accessible to the public—think the Dewey Decimal System and subsequent organizing systems; and, advancing the idea of the publicness of libraries argues for an institution open to all persons.

Exploring the author's argument for the nature of libraries, I settled in recently at one of the six tables in the adult section of the Sierra Madre Library at 3:30 p.m. Here's what I saw: a gray-haired couple reading newspapers; a retired math tutor working with two middle-school girls on their homework, one girl was Caucasian, the other Asian; a black South African graduate student working at his computer on a research paper; a middle-aged woman eyeing the one dollar book sale; two fifty plus year old men at separate tables, each working with books and their computers; three Latinas playing a lively board game; and, me, a 75 year old book reviewer for the Sierra Madre Public Library wondering if Orlean's assertion for the publicness and diversity of libraries might hold water in our own building. By my reckoning, Orlean had it right; if she is recruiting acolytes for social inclusivity, I'm in.

Libraries as institutions of inclusion may be the "ueber" wrap for Orlean's argument, it is intermixed with three other narratives, all indigenous to southern California: creation of the Goodhue-designed L.A. Library building constructed in 1926; biographs of the skein of men and women who were the city's librarians from its first, the 18 year old Mary Foy to the present, with plenty of words aimed at the eccentric Charles Lummis — Harvard drop out, cultural warrior on behalf of Native Americans and Spanish culture, author, advocate for the Southwest Museum and all-around intellectual gadfly. And then there was the April 29, 1986 fire which burned for more than seven hours at temperatures that reached 2,000 degrees leaving 400,000 books as ash and another 700,000 damaged by fire, heat, and water. The chief suspect as arsonist was Harry Peak, a loopy, wanna be actor now deceased whose presence in the library—or not—on the morning of the fire continues to haunt professional and amateur fire sleuths to this day.

*The Library Book* has already attracted a film contract. The author will deliver a lecture at The Huntington Library—where else—in November.

**CALL #: 027.4794 ORLEAN**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



9/2	LIBRARY CLOSED LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
9/3	10:00 a.m. Baby Rhyme Time
9/3	3:00-5:00 p.m. Lego Challenge
9/3	5:30-7:30 p.m. Virtual Reality
9/4	4:00 p.m. Teen Advisory Board – <i>Build A Scarecrow</i>
9/7	11:00 a.m. College Essay Outlining Workshop
9/7	12 Noon College Scholarship Information
9/9	10:00 a.m. Storytime
9/9	3:00 p.m. Fall Art Workshop
9/10	10:00 a.m. Baby Rhyme Time
9/10	3:00-5:00 p.m. Lego Challenge
9/10	5:30-7:30 p.m. Virtual Reality
9/11	4:00 p.m. Middle School Crafty Book Club – <i>Wolf Hollow &amp; American Flag Beaded Safety Pins</i>
9/12	3:30 p.m. Barks & Books
9/12	7:00 p.m. Library Board of Trustees Meeting
9/14	10:00 a.m. Craft It! DIY Faux Leather Cord Holder
9/16	10:00 a.m. Storytime
9/17	10:00 a.m. Baby Rhyme Time
9/17	3:00-5:00 p.m. Lego Challenge
9/17	5:30-7:30 p.m. Virtual Reality
9/18	4:00 p.m. Teen Activity Day- <i>Bad Art Night</i>
9/18	5:00 p.m. Cricut Workshop
9/18	7:00 p.m. Friends Board Meeting
9/19	11:00 a.m. Third Thursday Book Club
9/19	12 Noon Sierra Madre Playhouse Presents: <i>The Joy Luck Club</i>
9/21	9:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Fever
9/21	10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. STEAM Stations Open House/3D Printing Workshop
9/23	10:00 a.m. Storytime
9/24	10:00 a.m. Baby Rhyme Time
9/24	3:00-5:00 p.m. Lego Challenge
9/24	5:30-7:30 p.m. Virtual Reality
9/25	7:00 p.m. Library Board of Trustees Meeting
9/26	4:00 p.m. Chain Reaction Machine Challenge
9/27	7:00-9:30 p.m. Friends Wine & Cuisine Tasting Benefit
9/28	10:00 a.m. Coffee Cupping with Jones Coffee Roasters
9/30	10:00 a.m. Storytime

## PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Enjoy an hour of reading, songs, music and crafts on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. For ages 3-5.

## 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 Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

## BARKS AND BOOKS

Children in grades K-3 are invited to read to a gentle and specially trained dog on **Thursday, September 12** 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/](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/)

Sierra Madre Public Library  
 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
 Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186  
 TEXT (626) 662-1254

THE FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
 P.O. BOX 334, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91025  
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