



FRIENDS of the Sierra Madre Library

FOUNDED IN 1953

April 2023

President's Message

Dear Friends and Partners,

Spring has Sprung! I am typing this on the one day it is not raining so to me, it has! The Library's annual Bookmark Contest is going on and I get the honor of being one of the judges. This will probably be one of the hardest things I have ever had to do! Not sure how we will be able to narrow it down to just four winners!! Thank you so much Sierra Madre Community Foundation for sponsoring this amazing event for the Library.

Have you been by the Library to see our new "Partner Recognition Display?" It is our small way of recognizing and saying "Thank you" to all our amazing Partners. If you have not already, stop by and see your name while you are visiting the Library. If you know someone who would like to be a Partner, reach out to me, or visit our website www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org. We have also created this very handy QR code below. This link will take you directly to the site to join our Partners Program.

The Friends of the **Sierra Madre Art Fair** will be held at Memorial Park on **May 6 and 7**. I have absolutely missed this Sierra Madre tradition and I am so excited that it is back! The featured artist for this year's event will be **Suzanne Kustner**. When Suzanne is not busy creating beautiful designs, she is teaching classes at Sierra Madre Creative Arts Group. The Friends thank you for your patience and we are anxiously waiting to see your work on display. There will be other art from very talented artists, kid's activities, music, and a variety of food.

It gives me so much joy to be a part of this very awesome group! If you or someone you know would like to volunteer for Friends or any of our events, please reach out to me at 626-202-8502.

Julie Bencosme

SCAN ME



58TH ANNUAL SIERRA MADRE ART FAIR

The 58th 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 6**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on **Sunday, May 7**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More than 50 artists, including 12 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 **Suzanne Kustner**. Her enamels, including jewelry, bowls, and pins, will appear on all posters, post cards, flyers, and other promotional materials.

Live Music will be featured throughout the weekend in the band shell. 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 and be sure to visit our very creative Face Painter located in the southwest section of the park.

Again this year we will feature a Silent Auction. So far, 25 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 Instagram [@sierramadreartfair](https://www.instagram.com/sierramadreartfair), at our website www.sierramadreartfair.org, on Facebook or call 626-355-7186.

We look forward to seeing you **May 6th and 7th!**

SPECIAL EVENTS

WALK THIS WAY STORY ADVENTURE

Stretch your legs at Memorial Park while engaging in some early literacy with a new picture book each month. Beginning on **Monday, March 27** you can read *The Very Impatient Caterpillar* by Ross Burach.

COMMUNITY MOSAIC ART

From **Wednesday, April 1** to **Saturday, April 29** you are invited to work together on a community sticker art project the entire family will enjoy. Work on it as much or as little as you like during your visit to the Library.

3D PRINTING BASICS

Learn how we do our in-Library 3D prints in this beginner workshop on **Saturday, April 1** at 2:00 p.m. In-person, at the Library. No registration required.

DROP IN SPRING ART

From **Monday, April 3** to **Saturday, April 8** stop by the Library to get your craft on! We will have a plethora of art supplies available for you to craft and create with all day long. No registration required.

WRITER'S WORKSHOP

Are you itching to write something? A book? Poem? Short Story? Maybe even a Graphic Novel? **Every Tuesday in April** from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. we'll have different local authors in the Library ready to discuss their books, writing process, how to get started, overcome obstacles, and more!

Stay after the author's discussion to write and get assistance from that evening's resident author.

- **April 4** – Daniel Acosta, author of *The Iron River*
- **April 11** – Scott D. DoVale, author of *The Blue Leash: A Year of Mourning*
- **April 18** – Jane Olson, author of *World Citizen: Journey of a Humanitarian*
- **April 25** (National Library Week) – Kenneth R. Strange Jr., author of *It's Your Camino: One Couple's 500-Mile Pilgrimage Across Spain*

Registration encouraged though not required. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register or register on Eventbrite here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/sierra-madre-public-library-38645728623>.

LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: BEARS

California is rich in diversity of people and land. The golden state is home to more plants and wildlife than any other state and nearly 40 million people. As more people live and recreate in or near wildlife habitat, encounters with wildlife are likely. It's possible to share space and safely coexist with native species. Enjoy and celebrate wildlife with respect and understanding. Presented by Mackenzie Rich, Human-Wildlife Conflict Specialist for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on **Saturday, April 8** from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. No registration required.

SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKMARK CONTEST ENDS

The deadline is fast approaching! Will you get your "Wonders of Reading" bookmark completed in time? Submissions are due **Thursday, April 13**. No late entries accepted. Get those creative juices flowing and turn your bookmark in soon to the Library! For Kids in Grades K-8.

Winners will be announced at an **Award Ceremony** on **Wednesday, April 26** at 6:00 p.m. during National Library Week, April 23-29. Four selected winners will have their bookmarks published for distribution at the Library.

DIGITAL SERVICES MEET AND GREET

On **Saturday, April 15** from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. learn all about our free digital services available with your library card. Not only do we have Libby for eBooks and audiobooks, and Kanopy for streaming movies, TV Shows, and documentaries, but also you can take online courses, help build your resume, and engage in LinkedIn career training.

1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP

On **Tuesday, April 18** at 6:00 p.m. learn the skills needed to independently use the Library's 3D printer. Limited spaces available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

CRICUT WORKSHOP

On **Saturday, April 22** at 11:00 a.m. learn to use the Cricut with a Library staff member. No registration required.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Celebrate National Library Week from **Monday, April 23** to **Saturday, April 29**. There's More to the Story with themed events, programs, and crafts all week long! Join us for a week of fun activities to celebrate all the ways you connect with your Library.

SHELFIE PHOTO BOOTH

From **Monday, April 24** – **Saturday, April 29** celebrate National Library Week with this literature themed photo booth for one week only. Create a story that pops off the page with this family fun photo booth.

PIXELATED ART

On **Monday, April 24** at 3:30 p.m. school-age kids can get creative with perler/fuse beads and create their own pixelated art. No registration required.

SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

On **Tuesday, April 25** from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. learn all the free things your Library Card can get you when you attend the Library's Open House! There will be technology demonstrations, crafts, digital services support, shelfie photo booth, refreshments, prizes and even a giveaway! See what the Library has to offer. No registration required.

SEWING MACHINE BASICS

Learn sewing basics with the Library's sewing machine on **Thursday, April 27** at 11:00 a.m. OR 3:00 p.m. In-person, at the Library. Limited spaces available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

CRAFT IT!: MINI BOOK KEYCHAINS

On **Saturday, April 29** at 11:00 a.m. make your very own Mini Book Keychain. All materials provided, while supplies last.

MUSIC AND MINDFULNESS: HARPIST LEILA BISHOP

Take a relaxing break and stop in for some calming music to soothe the soul with harpist Leila Bishop on **Saturday, April 29** from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. No registration required.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

BABY RHYME TIME AT SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us at the Sierra Madre Public Library for Baby Rhyme Time on **Mondays** at 9:00 a.m. Baby Rhyme Time is for families with little ones from Birth to Age 2. Children will engage with songs, stories, and more. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 for more information. No registration required.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Preschool Storytime happens in the Children's Room at the Sierra Madre Public Library on **Mondays** at 10:00 a.m. Kids, Ages 3-5, can engage with stories, songs, and more. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 for more information. No registration required.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

BOARD LIBRARY TEENS

Calling all teens! Help the Library plan appropriate teen events while serving your community. Join the Board Library Teens and volunteer for service hours on **Wednesday, April 5** at 4:00 p.m. and on the first Wednesday of every month during the school year.

TEEN SNACKCHAT

Are you a teen who loves to chat about books and eat snacks? Then come to the Library for Snackchat. On **Wednesday, April 12** at 4:00 p.m. we'll be discussing *Divergent* by Veronica Roth and handing out copies of our next book.

TAILS AND TALES

On **Thursday, April 13** from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. school age children will get the chance to improve their reading skills by reading a book to a therapy dog in the Library. Special thanks to Love on a Leash for sharing their animals with us.

ANIME AFTERNOON

On **Wednesday, April 19** at 4:00 p.m. teens and tweens watch an anime series together. You'll even get a free first volume of the manga and of course there will be snacks. For Ages 12 years old and up. No registration required.

PAJAMA STORYTIME

Tune in on Zoom for a live Bedtime Storytime on **Wednesday, April 19** at 7:00 p.m. We'll have a scavenger hunt, show and tell, sing songs, and of course listen to some stories. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

ZOOM THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

On **Thursday, April 20** at 11:00 a.m. the book we are discussing on Zoom is *Under the Net* by Iris Murdoch. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

BEST USED BOOK SALE

The Friends Best Used Book Sale returns on **Friday, April 7** from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and **Saturday, April 8** from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Featured this time in the basement will be Games and Puzzles for all ages. A recent donation is the Franklin Mint "Collector's Edition" of the popular "Monopoly" game. This set includes a lovely walnut board with a glass top and gold-plated houses and hotels, sturdy cards and a handy built-in banker's drawer. This will be a gameboard for your family for years to come! We have lots of puzzles in many sizes and special games for children. Also, check out our collection of large-format "coffee-table books" on Art, Cooking, Culture, History and Sports at our always low prices. Newer Fiction and Non-fiction book are also available.

The parking lot will have our popular \$1.00 Bargain Books with many vintage books as well as newer fiction and non-fiction. Children's and Teen books are 50 cents-\$5.00, DVDs and CDs \$1.00 each and Audio Books \$2.00. Be sure and come on **Saturday** for our **\$5.00 BAG SALE** on the parking lot. It's all you can stuff in a large grocery bag (we furnish the bags) for only \$5.00!

The sale will take place behind the Sierra Madre Library, 440 West Sierra Madre, rain or shine. We look forward to seeing you there!

PARTNERS PROGRAM

The following Partners have renewed their annual commitment during the month of March: Anne Bittner, Carol Cerrina, Helena Czepiec, Maggie Ellis, the Henderson Family, Shannon King & Frank Moore, Elizabeth Leahy, Gurdon Miller & Catriona Shafer, Dana & Eileen Roth, John & Jill Schofield, and Barbara Watson.

Partners donations provide funds for youth and adult programs and for special projects the Library staff undertakes. These funds help to make our Library be the best it can be in providing resources and programs that positively impact its many patrons. We are very grateful to our Partners and hope that many of you can join us at the special **Partners Reception** in your honor on **Friday, April 28**.

Membership in the Partners is at three levels depending upon your annual donation. The **Partners Level** is for those contributing \$100 each year, at the **Silver Level** for those contributing \$250 each year, and at the **Gold Level** for those who contribute \$500 or more annually. If you would like to become a Partner, please mail your donation to Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, Partners Program, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. Kindly write "Partners" in the memo line and indicate your level of commitment. Thank you.

MARY TUMILTY FUND

Named in honor of the Library's longtime senior librarian, the Mary Tumilty Fund was created more than ten years ago to support the Library's special projects. The fund continues to grow thanks to donors such as Patricia Fortmeier who recently contributed. If you would like to contribute, please mail your donation to Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. Kindly write "Mary Tumilty Fund" in the memo line of your check. Thank you.

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library would like to thank Joan & Rod Spears and Jean L. Richardson who have made a recent contribution. Monies in the General Fund are used to purchase and replenish books, software and other resource items and to fund the Library's many outreach programs. If you would like to make a tax-exempt donation to this fund, make out a check to the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, write "General Fund" in the memo line, and mail your check to the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. We are grateful for your support.

LIBRARY DISPLAY CASE

The Library display case for April will feature a variety of art that represents the quality of art on display and for sale at the **Sierra Madre Art Fair May 6-7**.

READER'S REVIEW



*This month's review is
by Richard Bellikoff*

Spare

By Prince Harry

As a citizen of a nation whose last monarch was King George III, I have always thought of the royal family as a royal pain. I've made lame jokes about the Prince of Tides and the Duke of Earl. Nevertheless, I found Harry's memoir compelling. The title refers to his status as the second in line to the throne, behind his older brother Prince William. "I was brought into the world in case something happened to Willy," he writes. "I was summoned to provide backup, distraction, diversion and, if necessary, a spare part. Kidney, perhaps. Blood transfusion. Speck of bone marrow."

Some of the book's incidents are already well known from pre-publication leaks and Harry's talk show appearances. They include the loss of his virginity, his penile frostbite and his physical altercation with William. But this isn't just another trashy celebrity tell-all. Some of the most moving passages describe 12-year-old Harry struggling to grieve in public after the death of his mother, Princess Diana, while marching in her funeral procession and exchanging pleasantries with mourners. He blames the paps, as he calls them, for causing her death, and for tormenting him and Meghan. The clicks of their cameras sound to him "like a gun cocking or a blade being notched open."

Harry can be witty and self-deprecating, but he also indulges in score-settling, much of it directed at William, who's depicted as domineering and insecure, with "his familiar scowl, which had always been his default in dealings with me; his alarming baldness, more advanced than my own; his famous resemblance to Mummy, which was fading with time." Upon being told of Harry's plans to marry Meghan, William "predicted a host of difficulties I could expect if I hooked up with an 'American actress,' a phrase he always managed to make sound like 'convicted felon.'"

The book's format makes it easy to read, with short chapters, paragraphs and sentences, some consisting of just a single word. Credit for that probably belongs to ghostwriter J.R. Moehringer. YouTube has clips of Harry reading passages, and if you want to hear him do the whole megillah or enchilada, you can access it in the library's catalog.

In the prologue, Harry says he wrote the book to explain why he abandoned his royal duties. So will it produce a family reconciliation? Not bloody likely. In fact, since publication, King Charles III has asked Harry and Meghan to vacate their U.K. residence, Frogmore Cottage, a gift from the Queen. Clearly, Charles isn't singing the 1920s American popular song, "I'm Just Wild About Harry."

CALL # STATUS: 941.086 HARRY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL CALENDAR

EVERY MONDAY	9:00 A.M.	IN-PERSON AT THE LIBRARY BABY RHYME TIME	APRIL 18	6:00 P.M.	WRITER'S WORKSHOP: JANE OLSON
EVERY MONDAY	10:00 A.M.	IN-PERSON AT THE LIBRARY STORYTIME	APRIL 19	4:00 P.M.	ANIME AFTERNOON
MARCH 27-APRIL 30		WALK THIS WAY STORY ADVENTURE	APRIL 19	7:00 P.M.	PAJAMA STORYTIME
APRIL 1-29		COMMUNITY MOSAIC ART	APRIL 20	7:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING
APRIL 1	2:00 P.M.	3D PRINTING BASICS	APRIL 22	11:00 A.M.	ZOOM 3RD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB
APRIL 3-8		DROP IN SPRING ART	APRIL 23-29		CRICUT WORKSHOP
APRIL 4	6:00 P.M.	WRITER'S WORKSHOP: DANIEL ACOSTA	APRIL 23-29		NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
APRIL 5	4:00 P.M.	BOARD LIBRARY TEENS	APRIL 24	3:30 P.M.	SHELFIE PHOTO BOOTH
APRIL 7	3:00-7:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE	APRIL 24	5:00 P.M.	PIXELATED ART
APRIL 8	10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE	APRIL 25	3:30 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
APRIL 8	12 NOON	LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: BEARS	APRIL 25	6:00 P.M.	LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE
APRIL 11	6:00 P.M.	WRITER'S WORKSHOP: SCOTT D. DOVALE	APRIL 26	6:00 P.M.	WRITER'S WORKSHOP: KENNETH STRANGE
APRIL 12	4:00 P.M.	TEEN SNACKCHAT	APRIL 27	11:00 A.M.	BOOKMARK AWARD CEREMONY
APRIL 13	3:30 P.M.	TAILS & TALES	APRIL 27	3:00 P.M.	SEWING MACHINE BASICS
APRIL 13		LIBRARY'S BOOKMARK CONTEST ENDS	APRIL 28	5:00 P.M.	SEWING MACHINE BASICS
APRIL 15	12 NOON	DIGITAL SERVICES MEET & GREET	APRIL 29	11:00 A.M.	PARTNERS RECEPTION
APRIL 18	6:00 P.M.	1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP	APRIL 29	1:00-3:00 P.M.	CRAFT IT!: MINI BOOK KEYCHAINS
					MUSIC AND MINDFULNESS

Read, Discover, Connect @ Sierra Madre Public Library

LIBRARY HOURS
 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

Sierra Madre Public Library
 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
 Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186
 TEXT (626) 662-1254
www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/

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