



FRIENDS of the Sierra Madre Library

FOUNDED IN 1953

July/August 2023

President's Message

Dear Friends and Partners,

Our Annual Dinner Meeting was a complete success!! We are close to our pre-pandemic attendance so it looks like we will have to book a larger venue. The theme was "Embracing Friendship and Community Through Books." It was very nice to see Mayor Garcia and Councilmember Parkhurst in attendance and chatting with our many volunteers from The Best Used Book Sale, Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Art Fair, and our newest community event The Snowflake Festival. I would like to give a special thanks to Sharon Murphy, Jeanne Martin, Martha Troedson, Leslie Ziff and Margaret Quigley for their extra awesome help with putting the annual dinner together!

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will be co-sponsoring a **Summer Concert in the Park**. The very talented band will be The Skinny Ties. The concert will be on **Sunday, August 6** at 6:00 p.m. in Memorial Park. It is nice to get out of the house, sit on the grass and feed your soul with some great music. We will have our booth set up giving away a refreshing treat. Please stop by and say "Hi!"

Do you have great ideas for fund raising and want to share them? Do you enjoy supporting your community through volunteerism? Are you looking to socialize with a great group of Friends? We are the place for all of that and more! Please reach out if you or someone you know fits that description.

If you know of someone who would like to be a Partner and be a part of these wonderful events, reach out to me, or visit our website sierramadrelibraryfriends.org. We have also created this very handy QR code below. This link will take you directly to the site to join our Partner Program.

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



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-2024

At the Friends Annual June Meeting, held on June 21 at the Hart Park House, the nominees for the Friends Board of Directors for 2023-2024 were unanimously approved by members who attended the "Embracing Friendship and Community Through Books" themed dinner. Guests enjoyed being together, sharing stories and hearing about the changes coming to the Library very soon. It was also a special time to thank all of our wonderful volunteers.

President: Julie Bencosme

1st VP, Governance: Jeanne Martin

2nd VP, Development: Pete Siberell

Treasurer: Darlene Traxler

Recording Secretary: Liz Leahy

Corresponding Secretary: Julie Puterbaugh

Art Fair: TBA

Newsletter/Web Site: Sharon Murphy

Partners Program/Mary Tumilty Fund: Jane Zamanzadeh

Publicity: Vicky Ryan

Trustee Liaison: TBA

Volunteer Development: Julie Puterbaugh

Wine and Cuisine Tasting: Leslie Ziff

Directors at Large

Jill Franks

Prudence Levine

Wendy Senour

Gerri Wright

Non-Directors

Archives: Margaret Quigley

Best Used Book Sale: Martha Troedson

Membership: Beth Kerns

Director Emeritus: Beth Smith-Kellock

We are still in need of a chair or co-chairs for the **Art Fair** and **Directors at Large** positions are available as well. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact **Jeanne Martin** at 626-893-4540 or jmartin234@aol.com.

PROGRAMMING NAP FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

The Library will be having a programming nap for the month of August. This means there will be very few programs happening. We will return with your regularly scheduled programs in September.

SPECIAL EVENTS PERFECTLY PUZZLED

Take a break and work on a community puzzle at the Library from **Saturday, July 1 to Saturday, July 29**. Do a little, do a lot! Let's work together to make all the pieces fit.

WALK THIS WAY STORY ADVENTURE

Stretch your legs at Memorial Park while engaging in some early literacy, with a new picture book featured each month. Beginning on **Saturday, July 1** you can read *On Meadowview Street* by Henry Cole. This title is sponsored by the Sierra Madre Civic Club.

KIDS CHESS CLUB

Ready to make a move on chess? Kids can learn how to play or challenge our instructor **every Saturday in July** at 3:00 p.m. Checkmate! No registration required.

READING BUDDIES

Every Monday and Thursday in July from 3:30-5:30 p.m. (except July 31) kids can read with a friendly teen volunteer and work on their literacy skills all summer long.

ANIME AFTERNOON

Let's pick an anime series to watch all summer long **every Tuesday in July** at 5:00 p.m. (except July 4). You'll even get the first volume of the manga and of course there will be snacks!

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

Every Wednesday in July from 3:00-5:00 p.m. immerse yourself in a fantasy world of your own making with the role-playing game of Dungeons & Dragons. For Kids, Age 10 and up. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

CRAFT IT!: CONFETTI BLASTER

On **Saturday, July 1** at 11:00 a.m. create a confetti blaster to use on the 4th of July! All materials provided, while supplies last.

THE FOUND OBJECT JUGGLING SHOW WITH MICHAEL RAYNER

Michael's show has been described as "preposterous brilliance" and "wacky jugglement," a combination of hilarious tricks and stunts with uproarious stand-up. Join us for this family-friendly event on **Saturday, July 1** at 2:00 p.m. No registration required.

4TH OF JULY CRAFT: FOOTBALL DECORATING

On **Monday, July 3** at 11:00 a.m. stop in the Library and decorate a 4th of July themed mini football perfect for playing a game with family and friends. All materials provided, while supplies last.

DIGITAL SERVICES MEET AND GREET

On **Saturday, July 8** 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 all free with your library card. Drop in and learn how to navigate these services and more.

BEGINNING STITCHES

Stitch away the afternoon with Chelsea on **Saturday, July 8 AND Saturday, July 22** at 4:00 p.m. She'll be teaching adults how to cross stitch simple book designs. Space is limited. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

NOTEWORTHY PUPPETS

We've got a special Storytime in July thanks to Noteworthy Puppets! If you're ready to see *Sherlock Holmes: A Whodunit Puppet Musical*, stop by the Library and enjoy on **Monday, July 10** at 10:00 a.m. (This will be in place of our regular Monday morning programs.)

THE TEEN UNOFFICIAL BOOK CLUB

Teens, read all summer long with us and we will complete the first 3 books in the *Enola Holmes* series on **Tuesday, July 11 AND Tuesday, July 25** at 4:00 p.m. Snacks will be provided.

1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP

Learn the skills needed to independently use the Library's 3D printer on **Tuesday, July 11** at 6:00 p.m. Limited spaces available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

NATURE WALK

Meet us at Bailey Canyon for an evening guided nature walk with the Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council on **Wednesday, July 12** from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Space is limited. Registration required. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

SUMMER SCIENCE WORKSHOP: GAME DESIGN

Local teacher Ms. Richey wants to teach you all about science! She will run four science workshops centered on different engineering topics in-person at the Library. This workshop covers game design on **Saturday, July 15** at 11:00 a.m. For school age children. Limited space available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

CRICUT WORKSHOP

Learn to use the Cricut with a Library staff member on **Saturday, July 15** at 1:00 p.m. No registration required.

MEDITATION MORNING

On **Tuesday, July 18** at 10:00 a.m. learn meditation techniques to relax and center yourself with Vanessa Quintero. Limited mats provided, bring one if you can. No registration required.

SEWING MACHINE BASICS

Learn sewing basics with the Library's sewing machine on **Thursday, July 20** at 1:00 p.m. OR **Saturday, July 22** at 1:00 p.m. In-person, at the Library. Limited spaces available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

SUMMER SCIENCE WORKSHOP: BUILD-A-BOT AND MINI LIGHTSABER

Local teacher Ms. Richey wants to teach you all about science! She will run four science workshops centered on different engineering topics in-person at the Library. The last workshop is all about lightsabers and robots on **Saturday, July 22** at 11:00 a.m. For school age children. Limited space available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

3D PRINTING BASICS

Learn how we do our in-Library 3D prints in this beginner workshop on **Saturday, July 22** at 12 noon. In-person, at the Library. No registration required.

THOR'S REPTILES

Enjoy a family-friendly hands-on entertaining and educational program featuring arthropods, amphibians and reptiles of all sizes while learning about the animals presented on **Monday, July 24** at 10:00 a.m. No registration required. (This will be in place of our regular Monday morning programs.)

STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER

Drop off your stuffed animal on **Thursday, July 28** so they can have a sleepover! Then on **Saturday, July 29** at 10:00 a.m. enjoy breakfast with your cuddly best friend while seeing a slideshow of all their slumber party adventures (and shenanigans).

MUSIC AND MINDFULNESS: GUITARIST ALAN GEIER

Take a relaxing break and stop in for some calming music to soothe the soul with Pianist Alan Geier on **Saturday, July 29** from 1:00-3:00 p.m. No registration required.

PIXELATED ART

On **Monday, July 31** at 3:30 p.m. school-age kids can get creative with perler/fuse beads and create their own pixelated art. No registration required.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

BABY RHYME TIME AT SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us at 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

TAILS AND TALES

On **Thursday, July 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.

PAJAMA STORYTIME

Tune in on Zoom for a live Bedtime Storytime on **Wednesday, July 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, July 20** at 11:00 a.m. the book we are discussing on Zoom is *The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu* by Joshua Hammer. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

SOMMER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Sommer Scholarship Fund was established by a Deed of Trust by donors John R. Sommer and Cynthia S. Hicks, former Sierra Madre residents who valued our Library. It was signed by the donors and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Sierra Madre Library on December 31, 1991. The Board of Trustees is the governing Board of the fund. Resolution 10-04, adopted in November 15, 2010, established a Scholarship Committee with the Library Board of Trustees, as well as the President and Treasurer of the Board of the Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library. The Director of Library Services is now also included. After reviewing the Deed of Trust in 2012 the Library Trustees considered the conditions for the scholarship and ways to promote the scholarship opportunity and in June of that year guidelines were passed.

The committee not only oversees but selects and awards qualified candidates, scholarships to aid in attaining either a library technology certification or an MLIS degree. The scholarships are open to current SMPL library staff or residents of the Sierra Madre community as stated in the Deed of Trust.

Since the fund was established in 1991, at least 25 library staff or residents have received monies to pursue their library education. To date over \$50,000 has been awarded to individuals, some of whom still work for the Library! Donations can be made to the Sommer Scholarship Fund when you renew your Friends membership by indicating such on the renewal form or online at www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org.

BEST USED BOOK SALE

The June Best Used Book Sale earned \$2,264.80. Added to presales of \$3,145.88, the total earnings were **\$5,410.68** since the April sale! It looks like the net earnings for the year will be over \$26,500! This is the highest total ever for the Book Sales. Many thanks to all our volunteers for their hard work and to all the Friends for their wonderful book donations.

The **August "Back-to-School" Book Sale** will be **Friday, August 4** from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and **Saturday, August 5** from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Everything in the basement will be HALF-OFF at this sale as we need to reduce our inventory for the move. The **\$5.00 BAG SALE** will be on SATURDAY as usual.

We will be holding our **Annual Silent Auction** in **September** and it will include many signed and collectible books in the Library Display Case.

PARTNERS PROGRAM

It was wonderful seeing so many Friends at our annual meeting. The Friends are a wonderful support group for our Library. As I said at the meeting, Friends can also be Partners. I think of the Partners as the BFFs of the Library since they commit to an annual donation – \$100 or more at the **Partners Level**; \$250 or more at the **Silver Level**; and \$500 or more at the **Gold Level**.

We would like to thank those Partners who renewed their membership this past month: Pat & De Alcorn, Beverly Clifton, Richard & Darlene Crook, Patricia Hall, Javier Ho and Victor & Donna Howard. 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.

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library would like to thank Barbara Spaulding who made a recent donation in memory of Regina Burhenn and to Karen & Harry Brumer, Tom & Peggy Burhenn, Shirley & Ronnie Chan, Sharon Marsh and Kevin Ramsey who all made recent donations.

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

We're excited to share our **Summer Reading Program** with you for 2023! Starting **June 10 to July 29** you can read books to earn prizes. Our display case will feature information about Summer Reading and all the prizes you can win by participating. The Library's Summer Reading display was designed and created by volunteer, and former Library staff member, **Donna Howard**. Thank you Donna!

READER'S REVIEW



This month's review is by **Richard Bellikoff**

My Life in France

By **Julia Child with Alex Prud'homme**

I had seen some of Julia Child's "The French Chef" shows on PBS and Dan

Aykroyd's satirical sketch as Julia on Saturday Night Live, but I knew few details about her until I watched CNN's 2022 documentary, "Julia." It whetted my appetite to read this memoir, which was written during the last year of her life in collaboration with her great-nephew Alex Prud'homme, who finished it after her death in 2004 at the age of 91.

Her life in France started with her 1948 arrival in Paris with her husband Paul, who worked for the US foreign service. At the time, she had never been to Europe, spoke no French and knew nothing about the country. But as she immersed herself in French culture, buying food at local markets and taking classes at the Cordon Bleu, her life changed forever. Those years in France marked a period of transformation during which she found her calling, leaving behind the life that her conservative, strait-laced father in Pasadena, California had intended for her. At a time when cooking was mainly a male bastion, she became a trailblazer and an inspiration for millions of American women.

Part I of the book recounts her years in Paris and Marseille. Part II covers her struggles to get her "cookery bookery," as she calls it, written and published, the growth of her television career, and her final years in Provence. Julia's story draws not only on her memory, but also on family correspondence from those pre-email and texting days when people actually wrote letters, many of which are cited in this book, along with reproductions of some of Paul's photographs and sketches. The prose captures her distinctive voice, plus her charm, sense of humor and joie de vivre.

The Library has the audiobook version of "My Life in France" and a DVD of the movie "Julie and Julia," which is based in part on this book, starring Meryl Streep as Julia and Stanley Tucci as Paul. And if you want to try cooking like Julia, the Library also has her famous book, "Mastering the Art of French Cooking." As Julia always said at the end of every episode of "The French Chef," Bon Appétit!

CALL # STATUS: 641.5092 CHILD

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JULY AND AUGUST CALENDAR

EVERY MONDAY	9:00 A.M.	IN-PERSON AT THE LIBRARY BABY RHYME TIME	JULY 15	1:00 P.M.	CRICUT WORKSHOP
EVERY MONDAY	10:00 A.M.	IN-PERSON AT THE LIBRARY STORYTIME	JULY 18	10:00 A.M.	MEDITATION MORNING
EVERY MONDAY	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES	JULY 19	7:00 P.M.	PAJAMA STORYTIME
EVERY TUESDAY	5:00 P.M.	ANIME AFTERNOON	JULY 19	7:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING
EVERY WEDNESDAY	3:00 P.M.	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS	JULY 20	11:00 A.M.	ZOOM 3 RD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB
EVERY THURSDAY	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES	JULY 20	1:00 P.M.	SEWING MACHINE BASICS
EVERY SATURDAY	3:00 P.M.	KIDS CHESS CLUB	JULY 22	11:00 A.M.	SUMMER SCIENCE WORKSHOP: BUILD-A-BOT & MINI LIGHTSABER
JULY 1-29		PERFECTLY PUZZLED	JULY 22	12 NOON	3D PRINTING BASICS
JULY 1-31		WALK THIS WAY STORY ADVENTURE	JULY 22	1:00 P.M.	SEWING MACHINE BASICS
JULY 1	11:00 A.M.	CRAFT IT!: CONFETTI BLASTER	JULY 22	4:00 P.M.	BEGINNING STITCHES: ADULTS
JULY 1	2:00 P.M.	THE FOUND OBJECT JUGGLING SHOW	JULY 24	10:00 A.M.	THOR'S REPTILES
JULY 3	11:00 A.M.	4 TH OF JULY CRAFT: FOOTBALL DECORATING	JULY 24	5:00 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
JULY 4	LIBRARY CLOSED 4 TH OF JULY HOLIDAY		JULY 25	4:00 P.M.	TEEN UNOFFICIAL BOOK CLUB
JULY 8	12 NOON	DIGITAL SERVICES MEET & GREET	JULY 27	ALL DAY	STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER DROPOFF
JULY 8	4:00 P.M.	BEGINNING STITCHES: ADULTS	JULY 29	10:00 A.M.	STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER BREAKFAST
JULY 10	10:00 A.M.	NOTEWORTHY PUPPETS	JULY 29		SIERRA MADRE SUPER SUMMER READING PROGRAM ENDS
JULY 11	4:00 P.M.	TEEN UNOFFICIAL BOOK CLUB	JULY 29	1:00-3:00 P.M.	MUSIC & MINDFULNESS
JULY 11	6:00 P.M.	1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP	JULY 31	3:30 P.M.	PIXELATED ART
JULY 12	6:00 P.M.	BAILEY CANYON NATURE WALK	AUGUST		LIBRARY PROGRAMMING NAP
JULY 13	3:30 P.M.	TAILS & TALES	AUGUST 4	3:00-7:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE
JULY 15	11:00 A.M.	SUMMER SCIENCE WORKSHOP: GAME DESIGN	AUGUST 5	10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE
			AUGUST 6	6:00 P.M.	CONCERT IN THE PARK
			AUGUST 16	7:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING
			AUGUST 28	5:00 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING

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
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 TEXT (626) 662-1254
www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/