

## President's Message

### Dear Friends and Partners,

The annual **Bookmark Contest** held at the Library on Wednesday, April 24 was a resounding success, drawing participation and creativity from Sierra Madre Elementary students of all grades. From the pool of talented entrants, one winner was selected from each grade, showcasing a diverse range of artistic expression. However, the task of choosing just one winner per grade proved challenging, leading to the selection of four exceptional designs to be printed and distributed by the Library. These winning bookmarks not only celebrate the artistic prowess of the students but also serve as tokens of inspiration for readers within the community.

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 4** and **Sunday, May 5** because the Friends of the Library are hosting the **Sierra Madre Art Fair** at Memorial Park. You won't want to miss it! Come see amazing sculptures by famous artist Robin M. Cohen. And that's not all—there will be fun activities and a special art table just for kids, thanks to the Creative Arts Group from Sierra Madre. It's going to be a blast for everyone!

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](http://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.

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**



## 59TH ANNUAL SIERRA MADRE ART FAIR

The 59<sup>th</sup> 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 **60 artists**, including 25 newly juried, have already committed to exhibiting. 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 Robin M. Cohen. Her Utah Alabaster sculpture, 'Tree of Fire,' 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. On Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Steve Trovato and Tim Kobza and from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Evan Marshall and Jean Sudbury. On Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mayde in Ireland and from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Evan Marshall, Jean Sudbury and some special guests.



**The Friends of the Library** will have a booth selling special treats for all and Members and Partners please stop by for a free coffee and a pastry. For the children, instructors from the **Creative Arts Group** have planned a special craft activity – making Butterflies; the **Library** will host a Washi Tape Bookmark making craft on Saturday from 11:00 to 12:30 p.m.; and be sure to visit our very creative **Face Painter** Diane Sands.

Again, this year we will feature a **Silent Auction**. So far, 35 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.

**New this year** is our Emerging Artists area and Art Center College of Design graduate student tables located in the Southwest section of the park.

**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](mailto: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 [@sierramadreatfair](https://www.instagram.com/sierramadreatfair), at our website [www.sierramadreatfair.org](http://www.sierramadreatfair.org), on Facebook or call 626-355-7186.

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

## SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKMARK CONTEST UPDATE

This year's Bookmark Contest theme was SIERRA MADRE STORIES and winners were announced at an Award Ceremony on Wednesday, April 24 at 6:00 p.m. at City Council Chambers. Winning artwork is on display in the Library's Children's Room and selected bookmarks will be available at the Library this summer. The June issue of the newsletter will have more details and a list of the winners.

## SPECIAL EVENTS ORIGAMI CORNER BOOKMARK

From **Wednesday, May 1 to Thursday, May 30** stop by the Library and fold your very own origami bookmark. Step by step instructions and supplies will be set out for you to get creative! No registration required.

## WALK THIS WAY: A STORY ADVENTURE

Stretch your legs at Memorial Park while engaging in some early literacy, with a new picture book featured each month. In May, you can read *Blue Ridge Babies 1, 2, 3: A Counting Book* by Laura Sperry Gardner. This title is sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library.

## WASHI BOOKMARK MAKING AT THE ART FAIR

On **Saturday, May 4** at 11:00 a.m. in Memorial Park find the Library booth at the Friends of the Library Sierra Madre Art Fair for a special Washi Bookmark making craft. All materials provided while supplies last.

## TEEN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TEENS, we need your help! Whether you're earning service hours, or just want to give back to your community, volunteer at the Sierra Madre Public Library this summer. Interested? Pick up an application at the Library and join us for an upcoming orientation:

- **Wednesday, May 15** at 6:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, May 18** at 11:00 a.m.

## SUMMER READING BUDDY

If you're a High School student and ready for more responsibility, think about becoming a Summer Reading Buddy! Pick up an application at the Library and attend the Reading Buddies orientation:

- **Wednesday, May 15** at 5:00 p.m.

## NATURE WALK

On **Monday, May 20** from 5:30-7:00 p.m. meet us at Bailey Canyon for an evening guided nature walk with the Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council. Space is limited. Registration required. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

## SENSORY PLAY

On **Thursday, May 23** from 9:00-9:30 a.m. join us for sensory-friendly play designated for neurodivergent children from Birth to Age 11. Children with sensory processing challenges, autism spectrum disorder, and/or ADHD can enjoy the library in a less stimulating environment.

Sensory toys will be set up for exploratory play. Exploratory sensory play material acquired thanks to generous donations from our community.

Registration is required to help maintain attendance levels. Walk-ins will be welcomed day-of until maximum attendance number is reached. Call 626-355-7186 to register or register on Eventbrite here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sensory-play-tickets-883792004677>

## 3D PRINTING BASICS

Learn how we do our in-Library 3D prints in this beginner workshop on **Saturday, May 25** at 12:00 p.m. In-person, at the Library. 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

On **Wednesday, May 8** and **Wednesday, May 22** at 4:00 p.m. help the Library plan appropriate teen events, and serve your community through volunteer work while earning service hours.

This year our BLTs are going green! Green Teens participants will learn about native and drought tolerant plants while helping the Library design, plant, and care for the green spaces around the temporary library. Green Teens will earn one service hour for each session attended. No registration required. Meeting locations will vary and weather may cause last minute location changes. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 for details and location updates.

## TAILS AND TALES

On **Thursday, May 9** 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.

## DIGITAL SERVICES MEET AND GREET

On **Saturday, May 11** from 12:00 to 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!

## PAJAMA STORYTIME

Tune in on Zoom for a live Bedtime Storytime on **Wednesday, May 15** 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, May 16** at 11:00 a.m. the book we are discussing on Zoom is *James Polk: The Man Who Transformed the Presidency and America* by Walter Borneman. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

## PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD 2024-2025

The following candidates for the Friends Board of Directors, 2024-2025, will be presented at the Annual June Meeting and Dinner to be held **Wednesday, June 19** at Hartzell Hall, Sierra Madre Methodist Church. At that time a motion will be made for approval by our members:

### Officers:

**President:** Jeanne Martin

**1st VP Governance:** Vicky Ryan

**2nd VP Development:** Pete Siberell

**Treasurer:** Darlene Traxler

**Recording Secretary:** Mary Higgins

**Corresponding Secretary:** Julie Puterbaugh

### Directors at Large:

Jill Franks

Sharon Murphy

Margaret Quigley

Wendy Senour

Jane Zamanzadeh

Leslie Ziff

**Director at Large** positions are available. An **Art Fair Chair** is also needed. Please contact **Jeanne Martin** at 626-893-4540 for more information. Committee appointments will be made at the July Board Meeting.

As the long awaited and planned work on the Library is close to beginning, these are very exciting times! Please consider being part of the process! This is such a rewarding way to support you community and your Library.

## BEST USED BOOK SALE

**GOOD NEWS!** Donations may now be left on the bench in front of the Temporary Library at 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. and thanks for your patience! The April Book Sale earned the largest amount since we moved to the temporary space \$1,715.00. Added to our presales of \$1,234.18, the total since the February sale was **\$2,948.18**. Thanks to everyone who volunteered and, especially, the great donations from the Friends.

## PARTNERS PROGRAM

Partners support the Library with an annual contribution at the **Partners Level** (\$100 or more); **Silver Level** (\$250 or more), or **Gold Level** (\$500 or more). We would like to thank Kristine Lowe for renewing her partnership this month and welcome new partners Jesse & Yolanda Hathaway, Laura Palmer, Diane Sands, and Patricia Wright.

If you would like to become a Partner or renew your partnership, you may do so online at the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library website at <https://sierramadrelibraryfriends.org>. Or you can 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 for supporting our Library!

## GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

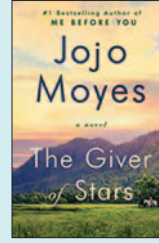
The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library would like to thank Dane Venaas who made a generous donation in April to the Sierra Madre Public Library.

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, go online or 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 CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 27

Holiday Observance: the Library will be closed on **Monday, May 27** for Memorial Day. We will reopen for services **Tuesday, May 28** at 11:00 a.m.

## READER'S REVIEW



This month's review is by **Catherine Addé**

### The Giver of Stars

**By Jojo Moyes**

Did you know there were Librarians on horseback during the great depression delivering books to rural Kentuckians? This was a part of Eleanor Roosevelt's plan to establish a library in each county and hire librarians to ride into the mountains of Appalachia as their delivery route. "Traveling libraries" seems to be a precursor to our own mobile libraries of today.

This is why the story enthralled me as it is based on truth, i.e. it is historical fiction.

Bonus: I'll read anything by esteemed author Jojo Moyes.

A shy English woman, Alice Wright, marries American Bennett Van Cleve in hopes of escaping her boring life in Britain. However small-town Kentucky proves to be stifling as well, especially living in the same house as her caustic father-in-law. Her escape? - a call goes out requiring a group of women to deliver books as part of Eleanor Roosevelt's new plan: packhorse librarians and a traveling library. A perfect outlet for Alice as she signs on enthusiastically.

The group's leader, who becomes Alice's greatest friend and ally, is Margery, an ahead of her time, self-sufficient woman does not ask a man's permission for anything. The two of them join up with other women and word quickly spreads around about these ladies called "the Packhorse Librarians of Kentucky."

I loved reading this dramatic tale of humanity and passion, the loyalty in friendships and justice in their workplace. There was joy realizing that rural folk appreciated - no make that devoured- these books, many of whom could barely read. I was eager to turn the next page to see what happens to them next - and to the men they love. It was bittersweet with humor as well as heart-break, but fear not - it has a happy ending!

"These heroic women refuse to be cowed by men or by convention. And though they face all kinds of dangers in a landscape that is at times breathtakingly beautiful, at others brutal, they are committed to their job: bringing books to people who have never had any, arming them with facts that will change their lives."

Destined to become a modern classic, *The Giver of Stars* is available to check out at our temporary location of the Sierra Madre Public Library at 350 West Sierra Madre Blvd.

**CALL # STATUS: FIC MOYES**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## MAY CALENDAR

EVERY MONDAY	9:00 A.M.	BABY RHYME TIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY	MAY 15	6:00 P.M.	TEEN VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
EVERY MONDAY	10:00 A.M.	STORYTIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY	MAY 15	7:00 P.M.	PAJAMA STORYTIME
MAY 1-30		WALK THIS WAY: A STORY ADVENTURE	MAY 15	7:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING
MAY 1-30		ORIGAMI CORNER BOOKMARK	MAY 16	11:00 A.M.	ZOOM 3 <sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY BOOK CLUB
MAY 4	9:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M.	SIERRA MADRE ART FAIR	MAY 18	11:00 A.M.	TEEN VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
MAY 4	11:00 A.M.	WASHI BOOKMARK MAKING AT THE ART FAIR	MAY 20	5:30 P.M.	NATURE WALK
MAY 5	9:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M.	SIERRA MADRE ART FAIR	MAY 22	4:00 P.M.	BOARD LIBRARY TEENS
MAY 8	4:00 P.M.	BOARD LIBRARY TEENS	MAY 23	9:00 A.M.	SENSORY PLAY
MAY 9	3:30 P.M.	TAILS & TALES	MAY 25	12:00 NOON	3D PRINTING BASICS
MAY 11	12 NOON	DIGITAL SERVICES MEET & GREET	MAY 27	5:00 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
MAY 15	5:00 P.M.	SUMMER READING BUDDY ORIENTATION	MAY 27		LIBRARY CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY

*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/](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/)

THE FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
 P.O. BOX 334, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91025  
[www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org](http://www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org)