

## 60TH ANNUAL SIERRA MADRE ART FAIR

The 60<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 3**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on **Sunday, May 4**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More than **60 artists**, including 15 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 Laura Wambsgans. Her Landscape Oil Painting on Linen, "Sycamores Graceful and Glowing," 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 the Southeast section of the Park. Guests can enjoy an eclectic selection of music.

The Friends of the Library will have a booth selling its popular baked goods and coffee. For the children, instructors from the **Creative Arts Group** have planned a special craft activity.

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.

We are pleased to say that grad students from the **Art Center College of Design** in Pasadena will be back in the Southwest section of the Park this year.

**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 3rd and 4th!



"Sycamores Graceful and Glowing"

## ONE BOOK ONE CITY WRAP UP

In February 2025, creativity blossomed as the One Book One City (OBOC) Committee put together a month of programs for the book *What You Are Looking For Is in the Library* by Michiko Aoyama. The Temporary Library offered felting classes, origami cat making, and a publication opportunity. Additionally, patrons were encouraged to find their Zen with a new program called Sip & Shush: A Silent Book Club; quietly reading among others allowing full immersion in their books. We also celebrated libraries and librarians with a wonderful play at the Sierra Madre Playhouse titled *The World's Strongest Librarian*. Let's not forget our Third Thursday Book Club where we discussed the 2025 OBOC book!

This year, we scaled back on OBOC programming as our City faced multiple hardships and challenges within the first two months of the year. The Library was able to hold 11 programs with over 250 participants. We want to thank the community for reading, discovering, and connecting with us throughout February. We also want to congratulate those community members published in our *What You Are Looking For is in OUR Library* book. Reading how libraries have touched the lives of our community members, warmed many hearts during a difficult time. We hope everyone enjoyed reading this year's selection, *What You Are Looking For Is in the Library* by Michiko Aoyama.

A special thank you to our One Book One City committee members: Marta Capoccia, Jane Zamanzadeh, Leigh Gluck, Catherine Addé, Rich Procter, Julie Imahara, Leila Regan, RT Rogers Brewing Company for hosting our Sip & Shush Silent Book Club, Rowan Procter for teaching the community how to felt, The Sierra Madre Playhouse for the marvelous production of *The World's Strongest Librarian*, and all our wonderful participants for supporting OBOC year after year.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### LIBRARY CARD HUNT

From **Tuesday, April 1 to Wednesday, April 30**, in honor of National Library Week, we are celebrating with a special activity for kids all month long! We have a “lost” library card hidden somewhere inside the Library. Let the front desk staff know where it was found and you can pick a reward from our prize basket!

### DROP-IN SPRING ART

From **Monday, April 7 to Saturday, April 12** stop by the Library to get your craft on! We will have a plethora of art supplies available so you can get creative. No registration required.

### NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

From **Monday, April 7 to Saturday, April 12** celebrate National Library Week 2025: “Drawn to the Library” with themed events, programs, and crafts all week long!

### SHELFIE PHOTO BOOTH

From **Monday, April 7 to Saturday, April 12** celebrate National Library Week with this literature themed photo booth for one week only.

### SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL BOOKMARK CONTEST

Kids, in Grades K-8, can flex their creative muscles with this year’s Bookmark Contest. Participants are invited to draw and write about ideas related to [this year’s theme](#) “Love My Sierra Madre.” Winning entries will showcase people, places, or things that illustrate what they love about Sierra Madre.

Entries may be turned in to the Library until 6:00 p.m. on **Thursday, April 10**. No late entries accepted. Winners will be announced at an **Awards Ceremony** at City Council Chambers on **Wednesday, April 30** at 6:00 p.m.

### SENSORY PLAY

On **Saturday, April 26** 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 among others can enjoy the Library in a less stimulating environment. Sensory toys will be set up for exploratory play and are 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.



### LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

On **Tuesday, April 29** from 4:00-6:00 p.m. drop in and see all the Library has to offer! From robots to sewing, the Library is more than books. Even in our temporary space, we’ve got plenty to offer, including State Park Passes. Light refreshments will be provided. No registration required.

### SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKMARK CONTEST AWARDS CEREMONY

This year’s theme is “LOVE MY SIERRA MADRE” and [four selected winners](#) will have their bookmarks published for distribution at the Library. Winners will be announced at an Awards Ceremony on **Wednesday, April 30** at 6:00 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

## 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

### GREEN TEENS

On **Wednesday, April 9 and Wednesday, April 23** at 4:00 p.m. meet new friends, learn new things and serve your community through volunteer work while earning service hours.

This year our Green Teens will participate in a variety of activities some of which include learning about and helping care for the native and drought tolerant plants in the green spaces around the Temporary Library at 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

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 **Wednesday, April 16** 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.

### ZOOM PAJAMA STORYTIME

Tune in on Zoom for a live Bedtime Storytime on **Wednesday, April 16** at 7:00 p.m. We’ll have a scavenger hunt, show and tell, and of course listen to some stories. Call the Library at 626- 355-7186 to register.

### ZOOM THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

On **Thursday, April 17** at 11:00 a.m. participants will discuss, *James* by Percival Everett. Live on Zoom. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

### DIGITAL SERVICES MEET AND GREET

On **Saturday, April 19** from 10:00-11:00 a.m. learn how to sign up for important local alerts through NIXLE, Smart911, Genasys, and Watch Duty. No registration required.

### 3D PRINTING BASICS

On **Saturday, April 19** at 12:00 p.m. learn how we do our in-Library 3D prints in this beginner workshop. In-person, at the Library. No registration required.

### SEWING MACHINE BASICS

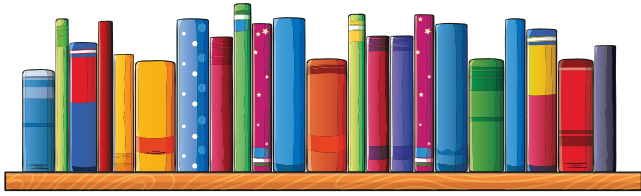
Learn sewing basics with the Library’s sewing machine. In-person, at the Library. Limited spaces available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

### 1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP

Learn the skills needed to independently use the Library’s 3D printer. Call 626-355-7186 to schedule a day and time to learn.

### CRICUT WORKSHOP

Learn how to use Cricut with a Library staff member. Call 626-355-7186 to schedule a day and time to learn.



## BEST USED BOOK SALE

Our April Book Sale will take place on **Friday, April 4** (3:00-7:00 p.m.) and **Saturday, April 5** (10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.).

Our Table Books section will feature Newer Hardback Fiction and beautiful "Coffee-Table" books, including Art and Cooking volumes. In addition, there is a complete set of *The Works of \_\_\_\_\_*, classics of the world authors like Shakespeare, Hemingway, Wilde and many others. Also look for wonderful Children's and Teen books which will encourage the love of reading in your family.

Our Bargain Books in the white boxes on the south side of the parking lot are listed at \$1.00 each. You will find both Fiction and Non-Fiction, many Newer and some Vintage. Our Children's books here range from 50 cents - \$1.00 and small paperbacks are 25 cents or 5/\$1.00. The media collection includes DVDs, CDs for only \$1.00 each and Audio Books for \$3.00. We have lots of jigsaw puzzles this time too!

Don't forget that **SATURDAY is our \$5.00 BAG SALE**. Buy a big grocery bag for only \$5.00 and fill it with your choice of our Bargain Books and/or Media.

[See you at the Friends sale behind the Library at 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.!](#)

## PARTNERS PROGRAM

As the renovation on our Library continues, funds are being raised to furnish our new building. The Partners are proud to have been able to make a significant donation to the Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment Fund which will be used for that purpose. Partners support the Library with an annual contribution at the **Partners (\$100 or more)**, **Silver (\$250 or more)**, or **Gold (\$500 or more) Level**.

We would like to thank the following Partners for renewing their membership last month: Julie & Andy Bencosme, Carol Cerrina, Maggie Ellis, Sharon Marsh and Jill & John Schofield.

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 of your check.

Thank you for supporting our Library!

## GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library would like to thank Theodore Calleton for his generous donation in March.

Monies in the General Fund are used to purchase and replenish books, software, and other resource items and to fund the Library's many out reach programs. If you would like to make a tax-exempt donation to this fund, go online or write "General Fund" on the memo line and mail your check to the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025.

Our Sierra Madre Public Library is now being renovated and is under construction. It will be completed by 2026.

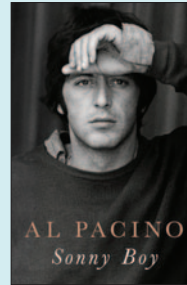
We are grateful for your support!

## READER'S REVIEW

This month's review is  
by Catherine Addé

### Sonny Boy

By Al Pacino



Who didn't see the Godfather? I mean to everyone who enjoys great films, it seemed Al Pacino exploded onto the screen and Hollywood like a supernova.

After he landed his first leading role: The Panic in Needle Park (1971), by 1975, he had starring roles in these four movies: The Godfather and The Godfather Part II, Serpico, and Dog Day Afternoon. These were landmarks in the history of film!

Pacino's performances were made of legend and because of these movies, his life was forever changed. I enjoyed reading all about his upbringing in New York – and many said that not since Marlon Brando and James Dean in the late 1950s had an actor arrived on the scene with such memorable charisma. Since he was in his mid-thirties by the time the movies were hits, he had already lived several lives.

He was involved in avant-garde theater in New York, leading a bohemian existence, working odd jobs to support his craft. Raised by a mentally unstable mother, for his father left when he was very young – so really, he was raised in the streets of the South Bronx. His memoir is peppered with tales of the youth he ran with – many of them succumbed due to drug use – but their spirits never left him.

It is fortunate for us that a teacher recognized his talents and enrolled him in New York's famous High School of Performing Arts, after that – the sky was the limit! Throughout the memoir, we revel with him during his best times and not so good – in poverty and in wealth and then in poverty again, for it is Diane Keaton in one of the chapters who is screaming at his 'manager' since Al cannot manage money and it is discovered he is broke. Through it all we learn that acting was his lifeline and joy – the community of players, his tribe.

Sonny Boy is the memoir of a man who has nothing left to fear and nothing left to hide. All of his great roles, and collaborations, as well as his most important relationships are showcased and highlighted here. As well as the relationship between commerce and creativity – often at odds with each other. As one reviewer said: "The book's golden thread, however, is the spirit of love and purpose. Love can fail you, and you can be defeated in your ambitions – the same lights that shine bright can also dim. But Al Pacino was lucky enough to fall deeply in love with a craft before he had the foggiest idea of any of its earthly rewards, and he never fell out of love. That has made all the difference."

Memoirs like this one are my very favorite things to read. Well, along with cookbooks and historical novels and, and, and.....

Enjoy!

**CALL # STATUS: NEW SHELF 791.4302 PACINO**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## APRIL CALENDAR

APRIL	CALL TO SCHEDULE DAY/TIME	SEWING MACHINE BASICS
APRIL	CALL TO SCHEDULE DAY/TIME	1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP
APRIL	CALL TO SCHEDULE DAY/TIME	CRICUT WORKSHOP
EVERY MONDAY	9:00 A.M.	BABY RHYME TIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY
EVERY MONDAY	10:00 A.M.	STORYTIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY
APRIL 1-30		LIBRARY CARD HUNT
APRIL 4	3:00-7:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE
APRIL 5	10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE
APRIL 7-12		DROP-IN SPRING ART
APRIL 7-12		NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
APRIL 7-12		SHELFIE PHOTO BOOTH
APRIL 9	4:00 P.M.	GREEN TEENS
APRIL 10		ANNUAL BOOKMARK CONTEST ENDS
APRIL 12	9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOOTH WISTARIA FESTIVAL
APRIL 16	3:30 P.M.	TAILS & TALES
APRIL 16	7:00 P.M.	ZOOM PAJAMA STORYTIME
APRIL 16	7:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING
APRIL 17	11:00 A.M.	ZOOM 3 <sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY BOOK CLUB
APRIL 19	10:00 A.M.	DIGITAL SERVICES MEET & GREET
APRIL 19	12:00 P.M.	3D PRINTING BASICS
APRIL 23	4:00 P.M.	GREEN TEENS
APRIL 26	9:00 A.M.	SENSORY PLAY
APRIL 28	5:00 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
APRIL 29	4:00-6:00 P.M.	LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE
APRIL 30	6:00 P.M.	ANNUAL BOOKMARK CONTEST AWARDS CEREMONY

*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  
 350 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.sierramadrepubliclibraryfriends.org](http://www.sierramadrepubliclibraryfriends.org)