



Live@theLibrary: Tickets on Sale August 1 Our Ninth Sell-Out Year. Don't Wait, Secure Your Seats Now!

Thanks to their passion for live music, devoted FAL volunteers have enticed jazz artists of local, regional, and national renown to perform for major fund-raisers to benefit the Library. Tickets are available August 1 at Dewey's Café, Books Inc., and on line at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/15915>. Cost: \$90 for all three or \$35 each. Shows start at 8:00 p.m. Stafford Room, Main Library. Doors open at 7:00; come early to greet, meet, and locate your place. For more information, contact Luzanne, 510.325.5776, luzengh@comcast.net.

Sept. 16: Singer Kenny Washington, Guitarist Jeff Massanari

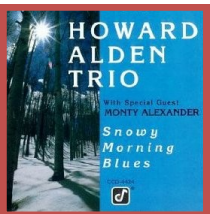
KENNY WASHINGTON is a jazz virtuoso who thrills audiences with his soulful interpretations, seemingly limitless range, and rapid fire scatting. The *San Francisco Chronicle* dubbed Kenny "the Superman of the Bay Area jazz scene." He just returned from playing Lincoln Center, New York. "Washington slays 'em wherever he performs. He is an oversized talent who can scat with the harmonic daring and rhythmic commend of a bebop saxophonist, croon with the simmering soul of Donny Hathaway, and interpret standards with intelligence and emotion," Andrew Gilbert, *East Bay Express*



JEFF MASSANARI was already performing and teaching jazz and blues in Washington DC—at age 17. After studying in Boston, he moved to the Bay Area and quickly became one of the most in-demand guitarists. and he has performed at Yoshi's, the Monterey Jazz Festival, Davies Symphony Hall, and internationally. Jeff wears many stylistic hats including straight-ahead jazz, fusion, blues, rock, and more. □



Oct. 28: "From Maurice Ravel to Bill Evans: The Piano Trio in the 20th Century"



THE UNIQUENESS OF THIS concert is that two pianists and two trios perform--one group plays classical, the other plays jazz. (Not at the same time, of course!) Both kinds of music will be compared and contrasted. The Alden Trio (Jon Lee, Yuri Kye, Brady Anderson) highlights the diversity and quality of the piano trio by exploring an eclectic mix of compositions, from Haydn to Chick Corea. They provide communities with live, high quality performance and connect with multi-generational, multicultural audiences. By way of contrast, the Adam Shulman Trio (Adam Shulman, Erik Markowitz, Smith Dobson) play the late Bill Evans and other jazz greats.

This double-barreled show always gets a standing ovation! □

Dec. 2: "Fever," Suzanna Smith Sings Peggy Lee

SUZANNA SMITH'S most important early venue was in Alameda at Kelly's a popular jazz spot run by Kelly Park. While she performed there with many and sundry, her most consequential musical relationship was



with Michael Coleman, who notes that she acquired her jazz chops "the old-fashioned way, nose to the grindstone, working a lot. She's matured into a really impressive, self-assured musician." Her quartet features pianist Lee Bloom. "Smith sounds like Lee, slightly breathy and warmly sensual with a hint of huskiness," wrote Christopher Loudon, *Jazz Times* □

IMMIGRATION NATION: CHALLENGES FOR ALL AMERICANS

GIVEN THE SUCCESS and acclimation that greeted the Muslim Panel last February, FAL has again partnered with AAUW and the League of Women Voters. The challenge is to explore an issue that affects most people, as virtually all of us are descendants of immigrants from somewhere. Red-pencil your calendars for Wednesday, September 27, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Stafford Room of the Main Library. Please note that audience members must register beforehand; see below for details.

Panel members will explore the history of federal immigration policy as it informs our current situation. Attention will focus on the sanctuary movement that has galvanized citizens groups. Participants will find out how policy was developed for immigrant and refugee rights at the federal, state, and local levels. Finally, we will learn more about migration, immigration law, and constitutional protections.

DISTINGUISHED PRESENTERS

- Wilma Chan, Alameda County Supervisor
- Dr. Laura Fantone, Italian activist and interdisciplinary scholar
- Pratheepan Gulasekaram, Law Professor specializing in state and local immigration law, among other interests
- Reverend Deborah Lee, Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity
- Amos White, author, poet, communications strategist, and leadership coach



FREE REGISTRATION

A hundred and a half folks attended the Muslim panel, so to make certain we have room for everyone, please register free by September 20 at <http://immigrationnationalameda.eventbrite.com>. After you have registered, plan to arrive early that evening to claim a seat. More information about panelists and topics will be forthcoming; watch the September FAL newsletter and the websites of sponsors. □

Even More Events

Sun. Aug. 6, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Stafford Room, Main Library



“Breaking Silence”
A documentary film about sexual assault in the Muslim Community an issue faced by people from all communities.. Presented by Heart Women and Girls.

Saturday, August 19.
10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Free Fun Fest

at Immanuel
Lutheran Church,
Santa Clara and
Lafayette.



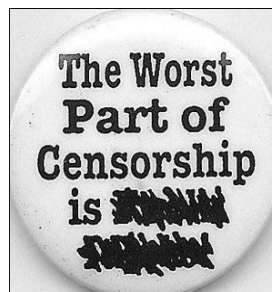
Staff the FAL
information
booth, meet
other local
groups and
enjoy food
and games.

To sign up for
a two hour shift, email
honoramurphy@comcast.net.

Thursday, September 28
10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Main Library

Banned Books Read-In

Sign up to help read
segments of books whose
censorship has been deemed
essential to public safety!



October 15-17

National Friends of the Library Week

Many local and national
festivities are in motion.
Watch the FAL newsletter,
our website, social media,
and other sources for
information.



CELEBRATE FAL EVENTS, PAST & FUTURE

FRIENDS OF THE ALAMEDA Free Library (FAL) has underwritten many library events and programs. Book Sales have spanned more than four decades, and high-roller musical entertainments, clustered under the banner Live@ the Library, have brought in peak revenue for almost ten years. FAL generosity is frequent and often modestly understated. Some contributions are tangible such as furniture and equipment. Smaller gifts abound and tend to go unnoticed, such as snacks, art supplies, summer reading for youngsters, Alameda Reads. . . . ☐



PAST: More Power to the Peepsters

PEEPS—THOSE PESKY candies that dominate Easter—became a colorful medium for artists thanks to the creative energies of library staff Hallie and Dawn. They presided over a diorama contest that garnered 31 entries and 166 votes. The three winners received gift cards to local coffee shops and restaurants, thanks to the Friends. ☐

FUTURE: Woody Minor: Focus on Alameda Homes: Bungalow Courts

ENJOY A SLIDE TALK by Author-Historian Woody Minor in the Stafford Room, Main Library, Tuesday September 19, 6:30 p.m. Woody will regale you with lore about these charming enclaves, first built in the 'teens in Southern California. Their popularity spread, and our Island City has some winning examples. A fourth generation son of Alameda, Woody is the premier author, researcher, historian, and interpreter of our island city. Many of his works are available in the Reference Department on the second floor of the Main Library. His prodigious output includes: hundreds of newspaper articles indexed in binders; many books including *A Home in Alameda*, and *Taking Care of Business*; an unwritten and lengthy legacy of generosity in sharing his passion and research on walking tours, slide shows, and classes. ☐



A typical bungalow court in Southern California, where the style originated.



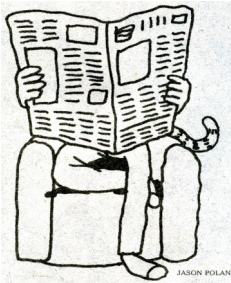
FUTURE: "Girl Rising" Documentary Film

CELEBRATE NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY with a compelling movie, *Girl Rising*, Wednesday August 9, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Stafford Room. This award winning production was released in 2013 by CNN; its focus is "the power of education, Seven Girls, Seven Countries." The trailer is on Youtube. Sponsored by FAL AAUW, Girls, Inc., and the League of Women Voters Alameda. ☐

FUTURE: Teotihuacan, Mexico Art Docent Talk

GATHER MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 6:30 p.m., Stafford Room for this presentation. *Teotihuacan: City of Water, City of Fire* shows how artworks from the venerable Mexican city shape our understanding of its ancient culture, its urban environment, and its value as an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Monumental and ritual objects, murals, ceramics, and stone sculptures will be on display. After the Main Library talk, view the exhibit through February 11, 2018, deYoung Museum, San Francisco. Check their site for hours and admission. Note: FAL sponsored docent talks fill up soon, so please arrive early. ☐





Book Club Corner



Note: Members of the Alameda Great Books Club only seem to be in a fog. Their discussions are both respectful and clear.

Ⓜ **Alameda Library Book Club**, 6:30 p.m., 2nd Monday, contact Pam J, pamchung@aol.com. Aug. 14: Read one or both. *The Girl from the Metropol Hotel: Growing Up in Communist Russia* by Ludmilla Petrushevskaya
The author grew up in a family of Bolshevik intellectuals reduced in the wake of the Russian Revolution to waiting in bread lines and worse. In this prizewinning memoir, she recounts her childhood of extreme deprivation—singing for alms and living by her wits. Two dozen photographs illuminate the crucible that forged her gift for giving voice to a nation of survivors.
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles. “This utterly entertaining second novel is from the author of *Rules of Civility*. Towles skillfully transports us to The Metropol, the famed Moscow hotel where movie stars and Russian royalty hobnob, where Bolsheviks plot revolutions, and intellectuals discuss the merits of contemporary Russian writers, where spies spy, thieves thief, and the danger of twentieth century Russia lurks outside its marbled walls”—Al Woodworth, *The Amazon Book Review* □

Ⓜ **Alameda Great Books Club (AGBC)**, next meeting Sept. 12, reading: Gustave Flaubert’s *A Simple Heart*.

Thriving for more than two decades, AGBC was started by Alamedan Jeffrey Hutchings (below) and other like-minded people who wanted to immerse themselves in the enormous variety of “Great Books,” from hoary classics of yesteryear to the poetry of last week, from short stories to volumes of Shakespeare.

Jeffrey decided to help organize a group and participate as a leader because, “I agreed with the values—to promote shared inquiry and encourage critical thinking. Leaders are trained by Bay Area GB volunteers to support members and to ask questions that promote discussion. There are no experts, and all views are welcome and respected. Also reading lists and ideas are flexible and can appeal to everyone.”

Longtime AGBC member Mary wrote, “I enjoy the variety of the readings. I have a good feeling that I am filling in gaps in my education with philosophy, plays, and short stories. Then I don't feel guilty reading teenage fantasies and mysteries. Plus over twenty years I have made good friends in the group. And each new person brings in a new point of view.”

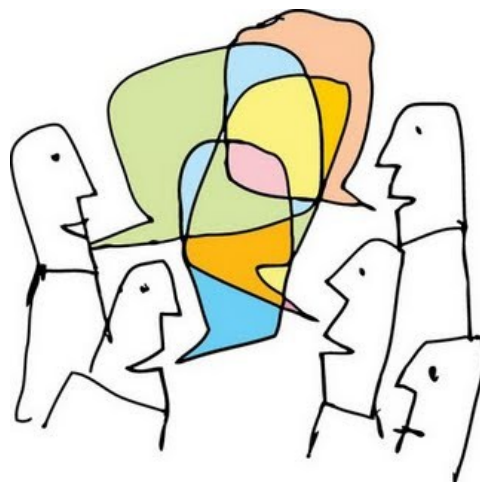
Pondering the immense popularity of book clubs, whether GB or not, Jeffrey concluded, “They give people a sense of community and shared interests, and they offer continuing education and enrichment. Book clubs can invite members to see different experiences and ideas, pushing beyond their comfort zones, while helping them feel safe and supported.” □



Book Clubs

Investigate, Join, Instigate, Celebrate . . .

MANY PEOPLE from throughout Alameda, with varied interests, and of all ages belong to book clubs—or would like to! The Alameda Free Library and the Friends support many thriving groups with posters, website postings, newspaper calendar submissions, listings on monthly activity calendars, funds for copies of books, snacks and more. To promote a club, join one, or start one please check in with the library website and please let us at the newsletter know details for inclusion on the monthly Book Club Corner. □



Meet FAL Board Member Nancy Johnsen Horton

What are your earliest memories of reading and books? In the 60s, my sister and I were always at the Branch library in the West End when Mrs. Helen Dodt read aloud during Children's Hour.

Do you enjoy "actual" books, ebooks? I'm about 80 percent ebooks and 20 percent "real" ones.

What are you reading these days and why? I enjoy novels, especially with a true historical connection and memoirs, but nowadays find most of my reading pleasure is taken up by my *New Yorker* magazine. There is so much to read, and they arrive every week!

You are hosting a literary dinner in your favorite Alameda restaurant. I would push tables together at Injera, Alameda's Ethiopian-Eritrean restaurant, and then order sampler platters – vegetable, meat, spicy, and mild; something for everyone! Guests: Toni Morrison, Charles Frazier, Laura Hillenbrand, Alice Walker, Barbara Kingsolver, and John Berendt.

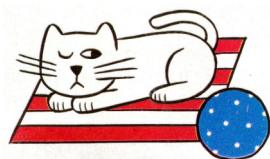
Discuss your involvement with the Free Library Foundation and the Friends. I joined the Foundation board in 2013 before it merged with the Friends. I worked on the \$50,000 "2,015 by 2015" campaign to build the library's collection. Then, we launched the "Ten Years Already?" that raised over \$20,000 for library programs and digital display screens for all three branches.

What are your hopes-fears about the future of reading and the Alameda Free Library? I have *no fears* about the future of reading in our town. Any Saturday morning, steady streams of families drop off books and later leave the library, balancing large stacks of reading material. The library is forging ahead with innovations, but Alameda families are always going to be readers. As far as hopes – I have been encouraged by the community's approval of the Foundation and Friends merger. Dedicated dues payers have embraced the concept of supporting the library through donations, and they have been most generous. I hope this broad-based support continues to flourish! ☐



KEEP IN TOUCH! EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR FAL ACTIVITIES

- **Information:** Info@alameafriends.com
- **Friends of the Library events, alerts, and news:** friendsalameda library@gmail.com
- **Become a volunteer:** Volunteer@alamedafriends.com
- **Newsletter comments or start-stop subscription:** friendsalamedalibrary@gmail.com



Notes from Editor Kris Matarrese

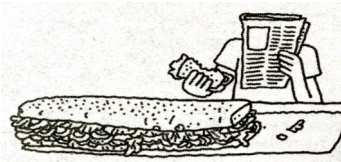
Contributors to this issue: Thanks to Luzanne Engh, Hallie Field, Nancy Horton, Kumar Fanshe, Judith Lynch, Karen Manuel, Billy Reinschmidt, and Eileen Savel.

We would like to hear from you: This newsletter is published monthly by Friends of the Alameda Free Library (FAL). Have a story idea, a correction, or an image to share? Our deadline for the September issue is August 23. Please email inquiries and submissions to judithlynch7@gmail.com.

To start or stop delivery of this newsletter, please send an email to friendsalamedalibrary@gmail.com and allow two months to get it done, thanks. ☐

CHECK OUT SEPTEMBER!

- Immigration Nation Details,
- Volunteer Recognition Party



Mission: Friends of the Alameda Free Library

***TO PROVIDE A VARIETY** of ways to contribute to the on-going services and growth of the Alameda Free Library for the enjoyment and benefit of the entire community.

***TO ACT AS STEWARD** for the library and its many services and programs through advocacy, volunteerism, and fund-raising to supplement public funding. ☐

2017 FAL officers and Board, Members

President: Karen Butter; Vice President: Kumar Fanshe; Secretary: Karen Manuel; Treasurer: Bill Gibbs; Board members: Eileen Bitten, Luzanne Engh, Marlene Grevich, Nancy Horton, Honora Murphy, Billy Reinschmidt, Carole Robie, Eileen Savel, Cindy Silva, and Jo Winzenread. The Board meets the fourth Monday of each month except December, at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Room, Main Library. The public is welcome. ☐

Friends
of the
Alameda
Free Library

P.O. Box 1024

Alameda, CA 94501

Return Service Requested

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