

## President's message: Karen Butter



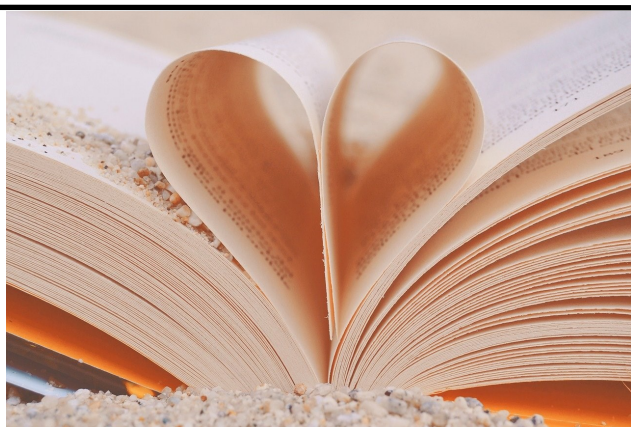
The FAL Board issued a statement (see below) strongly condemning the violence against AAPI and other oppressed groups. Board members will contribute to Asian Americans Advancing Justice and support the Library's purchase of materials from and about the AAPI community. Friends @ Home programs have highlighted the outstanding works of AAPI authors including Vanessa Hua, Jung Chang, Deepa Anappara and the art of Ruth Asawa.

Personally, I enjoy hearing from and reading new authors featured on Friends @ Home. I just finished *Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line* and highly recommend it. It's the story of children disappearing in a neighborhood in Delhi told by a child. It's a powerful and compelling story. You can find the books featured on Friends @ Home in the Alameda Free Library or purchase a copy from Books Inc. We have an exciting line-up of authors and artists for the next few months including a surprise author you won't want to miss. Please plan to join us! With more than 3300 registrations for our events since we started Friends @ Home in May, 2020 we are becoming known. A few weeks ago we received an email from a journalist for News Break who planned a story on FAL. She lives in Alameda and was looking for books for her father who is a voracious reader. She discovered our Used Online Bookstore and began purchasing used books. She wanted to know more and wrote a great article about FAL. Check it out at <http://bit.ly/FALArticle>

## FAL statement on solidarity with AAPI community and all oppressed groups

*In a time of destruction, create something: a poem, a parade, a community, a school, a vow, a moral principle; one peaceful moment.*

--- Maxine Hong Kingston



Friends of the Alameda Free Library is devastated about the recent tragic shootings and the increasing violence in our country. We condemn the violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islander communities and stand in solidarity with all oppressed communities. We will continue to champion diversity, inclusion and equity through our programs, library materials and resources and to acknowledge the enormous contributions of AAPI to our society. FAL Board members will make a financial contribution to an organization supporting the civil and human rights of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and will work with the Alameda Free Library to strengthen its collection so that all Alamedans can hear about contributions of AAPI, and learn strategies to combat racism and skills to live in a diverse society.



## FAL mourns the loss of a friend and volunteer

Jerrilyn Kaplan passed away on March 13 after a sudden illness. Jerri volunteered in the book sorting room on Monday mornings and loved her time there, including trading jigsaw puzzles with fellow volunteers. She continued to ask when was the library opening so she could get back to sorting. She was active in Temple Israel, and she was a passionate theater goer, a world traveler, quilter, reader, singer, and cinema attendee. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. Individuals may donate to FAL, Berkeley Rep, Temple Israel or the American Cancer Society in memory of Jerrilyn Kaplan.

## An opportunity to support FAL and Alameda youth nonprofits!

FAL has partnered with Boys & Girls Club of Alameda and Girls Inc. of the Island City to provide books to students from 6th grade through high school. You can help by purchasing our grab bags (large or small) of specially selected used books to fill these clubs' library needs. Go to the FAL Online Used Book Sale on our website. Select "Grab bags" from the "Product categories" menu on the right side of your screen, then select and pay for one or more grab bags for the nonprofit of your choice. We will deliver the books on your behalf. While you are there, order some books for yourself, too.



## Author Deepa Anappara | Saturday, April 10 at 12 noon



Deepa Anappara's debut novel, *Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line* has been nominated by The Mystery Writers of America for the Edgar© Award as the Best Novel of 2020. The novel follows three friends as they venture into the most dangerous corners of a sprawling Indian city.

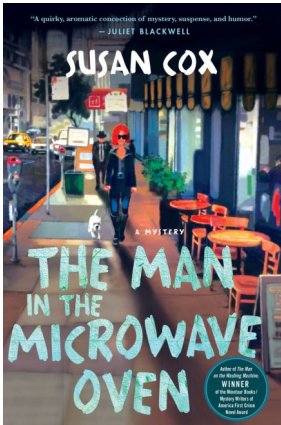
Jai watches too many reality police shows and considers himself to be smarter than his friends Pari and Faiz. When a classmate goes missing, Jai decides to use the crime-solving skills he has picked up from TV to find him. He asks Pari and Faiz to be his assistants, But what begins as a game turns sinister as other children start disappearing from their neighborhood.

Deepa Anappara was born in southern India, and worked as a journalist in India for eleven years. She has received the Developing Asia Journalism Awards, the Every Human has Rights Media Awards, and the Sanskriti-Prabha Dutt Fellowship in Journalism. Her debut novel has won several literary awards. It was named one of the best books of the year by The New York Times, NPR, The Washington Post and Time. Please note the early time for this event, scheduled because the author will be speaking to us from the United Kingdom.

# Art Docent Program: A toast to Wayne Thiebaud

## Wednesday, April 14 at 7 p.m.

Wayne Thiebaud recently marked his 100th birthday. Join us as we celebrate his illustrious career. Wayne Thiebaud has teased, tempted and tantalized us as he examines our daily lives. Whether it's desserts, landscapes, deli cases or portraits Thiebaud remains fascinated by the most commonplace scenes, objects and circumstances. He simply makes the ordinary, extraordinary. Marsha Holm, a docent with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco since 1979, will lead us in this celebration.



## Author Susan Cox | Wednesday, April 28 at 7 p.m.

Susan Cox's first novel, *The Man on the Washing Machine*, won the Minotaur Books/Mystery Writers of America First Crime Novel Competition. Her second novel, *The Man in the Microwave Oven*, was published last year and continues the adventures of Theo Bogart. Theo fled to San Francisco from England where a family tragedy made her the scandal du jour in the tabloid press. She changed her name and built a life in a delightfully quirky Polk Street neighborhood. Events soon conspire to force her to work through the same kind of scandalous mystery she was trying to leave behind. Susan Cox lives in California and Florida, with a large extended family. They share their lives with a standard poodle named Picasso and a cat named Midnight.

## Author Caroline Kim | Wednesday, May 5 at 7 p.m.

Exploring what it means to be human through the Korean diaspora, Caroline Kim's stories feature many voices. Each character must face their less-than-ideal circumstances and find a way to overcome them. With humor, insight, and curiosity, Kim's stories explore themes of culture, communication, travel, and family. Caroline Kim was born in Busan, South Korea and moved to America at an early age. She with her family in Northern California. *The Prince of Mournful Thoughts and Other Stories*, won the 2020 Drue Heinz Literature Prize and was nominated for the 2021 PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for Debut Short Story Collection.



### Stay connected!

We are now only publishing this newsletter quarterly to save costs. You can receive monthly newsletters and weekly event updates via email.



Please send your email address to:

[info@alamedafriends.com](mailto:info@alamedafriends.com)

And we will add you to our email list.

### FAL mission

- ◆ To provide a variety of ways to contribute to the ongoing 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.

Friends of the Alameda Free Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.  
Tax ID 23-7437087

*Friends*  
of the  
Alameda  
Free Library

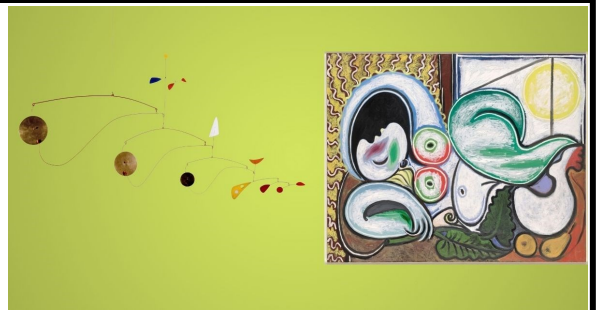
P.O. Box 1024  
Alameda, CA 94501  
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## Coming events

May 12, 2021: **Art Docent Program: Calder - Picasso**

May 26, 2021: **Author: Francesca Lia Block**

June 9, 2021: **Author: George Takei**



We record most of our author talks, but copyright issues keep us from recording most of the art docent programs. Recordings are posted within a few days of each event. Check our website for the past events recordings. You may also go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and subscribe to our Friends of the Alameda Free Library channel. Enjoy!

## Stay in touch!

Information: [info@alamedafriends.com](mailto:info@alamedafriends.com)

Become a volunteer: [volunteer@alamedafriends.com](mailto:volunteer@alamedafriends.com)

Donate funds, services, etc.: [donate@alamedafriends.com](mailto:donate@alamedafriends.com)

For the latest information on Friends events check our website: [www.alamedafriends.com](http://www.alamedafriends.com)

