



FAL President's message by Karen Butter



The Books for Friends grand opening and our third Pop-Up Used Book Sale were very successful. We sold record amounts of books, introduced the community to our outstanding new used bookstore in the Alameda Free Library and offered great reading material for all ages at bargain prices. These events would not be possible without the phenomenal leadership, long hours and hard work of Marcie Soslau, Philip Barry, Serena Hom, Billy Reinschmiedt and Cindy Silva. Many, many more volunteers were critical to success as well. The FAL board thanks you all!

Volunteers are working to prepare for our very large October 21-23 sale at the O'Club. I know many are excited to see its return. More details will be announced as we get closer to the event.

Please join me in welcoming Cathy Peloquin to the Board. We are so fortunate that our new Board Member agreed to lead the October sale. She is a long time Alamedan and has great ideas and significant experience working for volunteer organizations. Cathy has been hard at work finding out how the sales were done in the past and developing a plan for this year's sale. In late summer we will ask for volunteers. Please consider helping with this sale.

We are so grateful to our supporters – from those who contribute to the author and docent talks and to our Spring Appeal campaign. If you have not contributed to the campaign there is still time to do so. You can donate online or by sending a check to: Friends of the Alameda Free Library, P.O. Box 1024, Alameda, CA 94501 The generous contributions help us to support the outstanding programming at the Alameda Free Library. Thank you to all for supporting us!

New Board member Cathy Peloquin

Friends of the Alameda Free Library is delighted to welcome Cathy Peloquin to our board. Originally from Portland, Oregon, Cathy moved to Alameda in 1988. She and her husband have lived in the same house for 34 years. Their daughter attended Alameda public schools and she was active on the PTA's of Edison, Lincoln and Alameda High. Most recently, Cathy served for 10 years on the Board of California Revels, a non-profit performing arts organization.

Serving on the FAL board marries her love of books with community service. Although she has lived in Alameda for three decades, she never went to the semi annual "Used Book Sale," thinking that she didn't need yet another book. That will change this fall when she chairs our traditional book sale in October at the O'Club. It is a big job she has taken on and we know she will be excellent at it. Welcome Cathy!



URGENT NEED FOR BOOK MOVERS



Do you have a truck or larger SUV and two or more hours a week to help out the Book Sale Committee? We are a dedicated group of FAL volunteers tasked with all the behind the scenes work to support selling donated books. Our past sales events are an Alameda tradition that help circulate quality low cost books within our community. If you are able and willing to help with picking up donations and/or moving boxes on a regular ongoing basis, please reach out to us via our website.

www.AlamedaFriends.com

Books for Friends is officially open

Books for Friends (BFF), a used bookshop that supports the Alameda Free Library, celebrated its grand opening on June 23-25. BFF is led and managed by volunteers from Friends of the Alameda Free Library (FAL) and is located across from Dewey's Friends Cafe in the main library. BFF quietly opened in March and we wanted to give it the kick-off it deserves.



"It was important for FAL to drive greater public awareness to our amazing bookshop which is conveniently located inside the Main Library, but in a tucked-away location. We'd love it if every library patron visited BFF every time they visit the library. Not only can patrons find a great selection of well-priced books, but all purchases directly support the library," said Library Director Jane Chisaki. "We'd like to thank Jane Chisaki and the library staff for co-marketing the grand opening event," said Serena Hom, the FAL volunteer who spearheaded the grand opening campaign.

Philip Barry, the curator of Books for Friends, said, "The response from the community and library staff has been overwhelmingly positive. I hope we have added value to our shared Alameda culture and that this little shop will thrive and grow for many years to come to the benefit of all. Thank you to all the donors, volunteers, patrons and to the library for making this possible. Read on!"

The final day of the grand opening was especially festive with refreshments, music, special offers and the Summer Pop-Up sale! Books for Friends saw a three-fold increase in sales during the grand opening with a lot of new visitors and repeat ones alike.

FAL would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate with us at the grand opening and congratulate the drawing winners who will receive a \$20 gift certificate for a future purchase at BFF: Geoff Collins, Karen Oliver, Lynn Lebo-Planas, Lindsey Paterson, and Max Perez.

Pop-up Book Sale a big success



Our Pop-Up Book Sale Saturday, June 25, was a big success for all ages! Our theme for this sale was "Summer Reading" and books of all genres were featured. A curated selection of books from the Lawrence Reh collection was also included. Children's books were available and popular with the little ones.

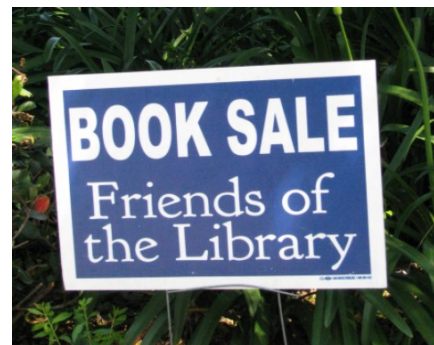
FAL thanks all the patrons, from the youngest up, for helping make the sale such a success. We plan to have more pop-up sales in the future.

October Used Book Sale returning!

We are so happy to announce that our venerable and sorely missed Used Book Sale is returning this year. Mark your calendars:

October 21-23
The O' Club
Alameda Point

We accept donations year-round, but there may be times when we are temporarily unable to due to high demand. Check our website for the most up to date status.





Register for the events below at www.AlamedaFriends.com/Calendar

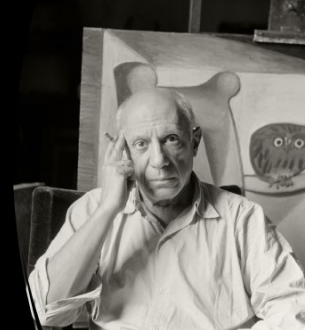
Online Art Talk | Picasso and His Women | July 13 at 7 p.m.

Picasso was born October 25, 1881, in Malaga, Spain. By the time he died in France in April of 1973, he had created a staggering 22,000 works of art in a variety of mediums, including sculpture, ceramics, mosaics, stage design and graphic arts. In this talk we will look at how the women in his life often dictated his style of painting. We will see realism, cubism, impressionism and neoclassical modes – happy and joyful to brutal and sad. He was an extremely emotional man and his art was definitely influenced by his fluctuating relationships with many women during his lifetime.

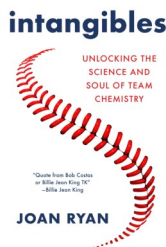
Join us on Zoom with Phoenix Art Museum master docent Carole James.

Picasso and His Women

Carole James,
Master Docent,
Phoenix Art
Museum



Online Author Talk | Joan Ryan - *intangibles* | July 19 at 7 p.m.



Award-winning sports writer Joan Ryan's new work delivers answers to some of the most intriguing questions about performance and human relationships: Is team chemistry real? If so, what exactly is it? How does it affect output? How is it cultivated? With wide-ranging implications, Ryan's theory illustrates how a certain combination of biological and social forces can boost selfless effort while encouraging us to be the best versions of ourselves. How these elements interact are what determines if a team will "click" and create an atmosphere of trust and respect that will push an individual to perform better on a team than they could alone. This is an online Zoom event.

Online Art Talk | The Obama Portraits | July 27 at 7 p.m.

The de Young Museum is proud to present the portraits of former President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle Obama by artists Kehinde Wiley and Amy Sherald. They are part of "The Obama Portraits Tour" organized by the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery. Approximately life-size, the two paintings present a striking contrast to earlier presidential portraits and images of first ladies. This talk will look at how artists Wiley and Sherald explore complex issues of identity in their work, as well as how portraiture shapes ideas about power, status, and legacy. Don't miss this discussion of an important turning point in both American history and art. Mike Madrid, a docent of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museums since 2019, will present this Zoom event.



Online Art Talk | Buenos Aires: Tango & Impressionism | August 10 at 7 p.m.



This presentation features the art of Benito Quinquela Martin who was a painter of his beloved port "La Boca." For him, color was life and his life was color. His paintings of port scenes show the activity, vigor and roughness of the daily port life. Benito Quinquela Martin is recognized as a great artist worldwide for his inherent talent and profound love of color and tango music.

Isabel Ballerna from the Phoenix Art Museum who recently presented a program on the relationship between Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera will be our guide for this Zoom event. Isabel is a native of Buenos Aires.



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Mission: Friends of the Alameda Free Library

- ◆ 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.

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