



FAL President's message by Karen Butter



Jane Chisaki, Alameda Free Library Director, is retiring at the end of June.

Jane began her professional career at the San Francisco Public Library but soon accepted a job as Children's Librarian at the Alameda Free Library in 1984. Through successive positions she was appointed library director in 2006. Jane has many outside interests including training Mr. Marvel, her young golden retriever, the Mariner Scouts, dragon boat racing, and is a long-time season ticket holder for her beloved Warriors to name a few. It's clear Jane has many activities to keep her busy in her well deserved retirement.

Jane has had a strong influence over the library and many library projects including her work on the team to design a new main library and obtaining grants to recognize the contributions of Japanese Americans to Alameda's history including the installation of Alameda Tonarigumi Historic Japantown markers. Jane has been a strong supporter of our organization, the programs we support, the programs we produce and all our fundraising activities within the library.

We at FAL have greatly enjoyed working with Jane for all these many years and we thank her for her leadership, her knowledge, her support, and her guidance. We know that the members of the Alameda community join us in wishing Jane all the best in her retirement. We will miss her but we plan to see her at future FAL events rested, relaxed and ready to volunteer.

Books For Friends

**Open Thursday - Saturday @ 12 - 4 p.m.
(and during special events)**

Quality used books at great prices!

Books, videos, and CDs are curated by Books for Friends (BFF) manager Philip Barry. BFF is located in the Main Library across from Dewey's Friends Cafe. The books are well selected, in excellent condition, and sell for very reasonable prices. Gift cards are also available for purchase.



Dewey's Friends Cafe seeks community input



We are working on a re-design of the cafe. We would love to hear your ideas. We will soon have surveys in the cafe. Please stop by the cafe the next time you are in the library and fill out a survey. Your feedback will help us create a new cafe experience for you at the library.

FAL spring fundraiser

It's April and FAL's spring fundraising campaign is launching this month.

Twice a year, in the Spring and Fall, Friends of the Alameda Free Library holds its fundraising appeal to support the Annual Fund. These campaigns are the cornerstone of FAL's fundraising efforts and provide the much-needed ongoing support for many library services, facilities improvements, adult and teen reading programs, and events such as free Movie Night!

Please consider making a donation, by check, credit card, one time or monthly and take a look at our new Giving Circles.



FAL also helps make your donation go even further by working with many employee matching gift programs like Disney, Chevron, Google and many more.

Giving is not just about making a donation. It's about making a difference. You can make a difference. Donate now at <https://bit.ly/3dx0UKI>. For questions, contact Kelly at groundk@alamedafriends.com



FAL Board welcomes Serena Hom



FAL is pleased to welcome Serena Hom to the Board of Directors. Serena is a native of Alameda who grew up using Alameda Free Library. After settling in Alameda with her family, she became an active volunteer with the Friends last year. Serena is an integral part of Books for Friends, having led the marketing effort for BFF's grand opening. She is currently working on the BFF branding project. She brings a rich professional background in marketing to her new role, having worked for well-respected companies such as REI and Peet's Coffee, among others. Her work experience will greatly benefit FAL's mission to advocate for our public library and fundraise for programs that will benefit all Alamedans. We are very pleased to have her on our board.

EVENTS | EVENTS | EVENTS | EVENTS | EVENTS

Sign up for online events at www.alamedafriends.com/calendar

Online Art Talk | Sargent and Spain | April 12 @ 7 p.m.



American artist John Singer Sargent (1856-1925) is known as the society portrait painter of the Gilded Age. A lifelong expatriate, Sargent made seven visits to Spain from 1879 to 1912, resulting in a remarkable body of work. Sargent and Spain will present never-before-exhibited photographs showcasing Spain's people, architecture, and magnificent rural and urban landscapes. This talk will immerse you in the rich culture of Spain and Sargent's vibrant depictions of the country's churches, coastlines, and dancers.

Luanne Andreotti, arts writer, editor, and docent at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, will lead us in a talk on the exhibition.

SOLD OUT Live @ the Library | April 15 @ 7 p.m.

Our final Live @ the Library concert for the spring season, Suzanna Smith's Peggy Lee Project, will be held on April 15 at the main library. The event will begin with a social hour at 7 p.m. Greatly enjoyed by our concert patrons, the social hour gives attendees a chance to mingle and enjoy a selection of sweet and savory items, as well as coffee, wine, and other beverages, from our cafe.

Books for Friends will also be open for your shopping pleasure. The sold-out concert will begin at 8 p.m.



Mini Book Sale | Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



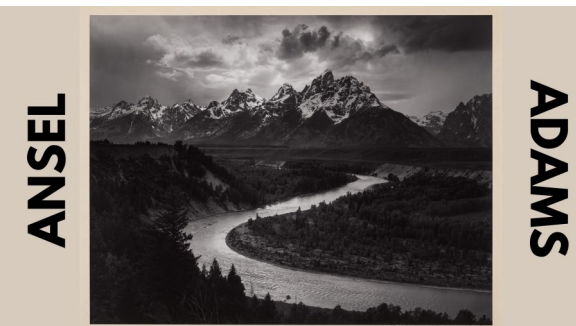
Don't miss a perfect opportunity to purchase great books for your upcoming vacation. This two day event in the Stafford Room at the main library offers thousands of books from many genres at great prices.

Books For Friends and Dewey's Friends Cafe will be open during the sale.

Our last sale on March 17 and 18 was a big success. Buyers selected from a wide variety of used books in excellent condition. Proceeds from these sales provide many children's and adult library programs.

These events would not occur without the many hardworking volunteers setting up, cashiering, keeping book tables neat and organized and closing down. We thank all our volunteers for donating their time to make these events such a wonderful success. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on our website.

Online Art Talk | Ansel Adams in Our Time | May 17 at 7 p.m.



Featuring more than 100 of his most iconic images of Yosemite, San Francisco, and the American Southwest, the exhibition Ansel Adams In Our Time at the de Young Museum looks back and forward in time by placing Adams' work in direct conversation with 19th century photographers who influenced him, as well as contemporary artists who followed. This talk will trace Adams' career and share some stories about how he created some of his distinctive photos. It will also explore Adams' ties to the Bay Area and his commitment to wilderness preservation which continues to serve as an urgent call to protect our environment.

Our docent for this talk, Mike Madrid, has been a docent at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco since 2019 and previously presented the Obama Portraits.

Online Art Talk | Vermeer: The Magic, Mystery, and Mastery | May 24

Celebrate the once-in-a-lifetime exhibit at Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum, which brings together an unprecedented 28 of Vermeer's 37 known works - even he never saw this many of his works together. Preview the exhibition and learn why Vermeer's magical works are so beloved. Little is known about his life, but much has been written about his style, his controversial method of painting, and what his works can tell us about life in 17th century Holland.

We will be guided in this exploration by one of our favorite docents Avril Angevine.



Many thanks to our Live @ the Library sponsors

Corporate Sponsor



Community Sponsors

Sue Especially for You

Dewey's Friends Cafe

Piedmont Piano

Intuitive Audio-Lu Judson

Craft Chocolate

Greens & Grains at Alameda Marketplace

Individual Sponsors

Karen Butter

Kumar and Shubha Fanse

Dona Fuller

Steve and Marlene Kofman

Victor Jin and Dianne Richmond

Josephine Sam

Jay and Eileen Savel

William and Cynthia Schaff



Find us on YouTube! Many of our author programs and a few of our art programs are recorded and available to view on our YouTube channel. <https://bit.ly/FriendVideos>



P.O. Box 1024
Alameda, CA 94501
Return Service Requested



To help spread the word about FAL's work, be sure to "like" our Facebook page the next time you're on Facebook. If you click to "get notifications," that makes sure you'll see our posts in your news feed. It also helps if you share our posts to your Facebook friends. [@friendsalamedafreelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/friendsalamedafreelibrary)

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.

Switch to the email version of our newsletter to help us save money. You'll also receive monthly (instead of quarterly) newsletters and weekly event updates. Use the link below to switch!



<https://bit.ly/FALSignUp>

Newsletter Production: Karen Roemer, Karen Manuel

Copy Editors: Marisa McAdams, Peg Rosen, Karen Butter, Karen Roemer, Karen Manuel

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

Information: info@alamedafriends.com
Become a volunteer: volunteer@alamedafriends.com
Donate funds, services, etc.: donate@alamedafriends.com