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Dear Friend,

Welcome to our August newsletter. We have a lot of exciting programs and news to tell you about. Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter and please invite your friends to join us! They can sign up for our mailing list [here](#).

-The FAL Board

## President's message by Karen Butter



organizations.

An unexpected award arrived in the mail for FAL recently. Each year Girls Inc. of the Island City selects Alameda organizations and individuals who have gone above and beyond to support the empowerment of girls and to inspire them to be strong, smart and bold. This year Friends of the Alameda Free Library was one of the organizations so recognized in the In-Kindness Award category. Thank you to the Girls Inc. board and staff for this honor. We value our partnerships with local

Housing is a significant concern throughout the country and in our island city. A local blog discussed repurposing the Carnegie Library building with apartments for unhoused individuals. Carnegie Libraries have a long proud history in this country, including California, of bringing free library service to communities. Of the 144 Carnegie libraries built in California, 59 have been demolished and 36 are still libraries. Eighty-five have undergone adaptive reuse such as museums, city halls, community centers, art centers and police departments. Locally the Alameda Free Library was one of the first three Carnegie libraries built in California. Opened in 1903, the construction cost was \$30,842.

The blog proposal suggests repurposing the Carnegie with anywhere from 29 to 54

units. The Carnegie building is in prime location central to many services and bus lines. It's very sad to see such a magnificent structure, that was central to life in Alameda for more than 70 years, sit unused. Carnegie was a proponent of free public service. Rehabilitating the Carnegie for housing appears to fall within Carnegie's vision.

## We are Zooming along



When the pandemic started, we quickly adopted Zoom as a tool for working together and staying in contact with you. At a recent board meeting, we snapped a picture to memorialize our Zoom experience.

## FAL receives ARTSFUND grant



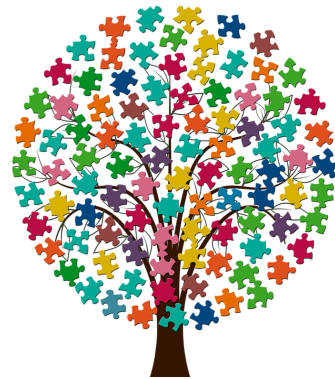
We are excited to share that FAL is the recipient of a \$2,100 grant from the 2021 ARTSFUND grant program for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. The ARTSFUND grants program was established to assist nonprofit arts organizations throughout Alameda county. It is managed by the Office of the Alameda County Arts Commission under the leadership of Melissa Wilk, Alameda County Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder and the members of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

These funds will be used for our Friends @ Home art docent and author series and upcoming Live @ the Library concert series. FAL is very grateful for this grant, which will support us in our ongoing work to bring arts programming to Alameda and the greater Bay Area.

Special thanks to The Alameda County Arts Commission, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and Alameda County Supervisor in District 3, Wilma Chan.

## Did you know FAL participates in matching gift programs?

Matching gifts are used by many Bay Area companies to promote philanthropic giving from their employees. Gifts from employees' spouses and retirees may also qualify for a match. Your company may also offer a volunteer grant program in which companies provide monetary donations to organizations where employees volunteer regularly.



FAL is proud to have generous matching gifts from employees of the following companies: Adobe, Airbnb, Apple, Autodesk, Chevron, Clorox, Disney, Facebook, Gap, Google, JPMorgan Chase, LinkedIn, PG&E and Pricewaterhouse Coopers.

Don't know if your employer has a matching gifts program? Check in with your Human Resources Director for assistance.

FAL's Fund Development Manager, Kelly Ground, is available to answer your questions about matching funds. [Click here to reach Kelly.](#)

## Library reopening news





The Main Library is now open 6 days a week. Face coverings are required, regardless of vaccination status. Physical distancing is encouraged.

#### SERVICES AVAILABLE

- materials checkout (books, media)
- quiet reading of newspapers, magazines, and other materials
- internet computers
- printing & scanning
- reference assistance
- readers advisory for all ages

#### HOURS

Monday: 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday: noon - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: noon - 5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday: noon - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

In mid-August the Library expects to return to pre-COVID hours, except Sundays. It is expected at that time that both the West End Library and the Bay Farm Island Library will be open two days a week.

Please check the Library website at [www.alamedafree.org](http://www.alamedafree.org) and watch the Library's Facebook page [@alamedafreelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/alamedafreelibrary) for the most current information about dates and times and for a lot of other good stuff.





**Wangechi Mutu: I Am Speaking, Are You Listening?**

**Art Docent Event**

**August 16 @ 7 p.m.**

Find out more [here](#)

**Judy Chicago: A Retrospective**

**Art Docent Event**

**September 13 @ 7 p.m.**

Find out more [here](#)



**Hung Liu: Golden Gate**

**Art Docent Event**

**October 13 @ 7 p.m.**

Find out more [here](#)

We record most of our author talks, but copyright issues keep us from recording many of the art docent programs. If you aren't able to attend our webinars in real time, you can enjoy most of them at a later date. Recordings are posted within a few days of each event. [Check our website](#) for the past events we have recorded.

You may also go to YouTube.com and subscribe to our [Friends of the Alameda Free Library channel](#). Enjoy!

## **We need your support!**

Making a donation is easy, just push the button below.

Remember, your donations are tax deductible!

### **Donate Now**

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



**Visit our Website**