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Dear Friend,

Happy New Year and welcome to our January 2022 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



I hope this holiday season was a brief respite for you to safely enjoy friends and family after many postponed get-togethers. Unfortunately, we are still facing COVID variants. Yet we are grateful for so much. While I hesitate to mention individual volunteers, I want to make an exception and acknowledge the exceptional leadership of Kris Matarrese. While our archives may not have recorded all of her activities, she has been an important contributor for many years. Kris was FAL President and skillfully guided the development of the organization. She was the Dewey's Cafe volunteer coordinator for 10 years, newsletter editor and has been copy editor for many years finding errors that many of us have overlooked. When we needed help, Kris was there through countless book sales and community events. Kris is stepping down from her volunteer work with FAL and we send best wishes to her and the family.

Over the holiday season FAL volunteers have been hard at work planning exciting programs, including new and reopened services for 2022. Please

check out and register for the art docent and author talks. We have an outstanding line-up of speakers and topics.

I also want to report on the remarkable progress in planning for new opportunities to purchase used books. The Library book sale space will open soon; we will hold three special pop-up sales this spring; and finally, we are beginning to plan for the return of the fall book sale at the O'Club in October. More details about each are in this newsletter. Additionally, we will reopen Dewey's Café for the occasional break from library work.

## **Used book sales - big news!!!**

After a year and a half of doing our best with online used book sales, the Used Book Sale committee has scheduled many sales opportunities for 2022. We are really excited about this book sale come back and know you will be too.

Starting Thursday, February 10, a book sale space will open at the main library in the old book donation/sorting room. The space will be open Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 12 to 4, and hours will increase as our volunteer base increases and as COVID allows. The committee has carefully selected books to stock the new space.



Next, we will be holding three pop-up sales in the Stafford Room of the main library, see dates below. Watch our newsletters and our website for more information about these sales.

**Most exciting of all** is the return of our long awaited traditional used book sale at the O' Club in October. We warmly welcome our co-chairs Cindy Silva and Joe Mallon for managing this event.

**OK, this part may be even more exciting**, we will begin accepting donations of gently used books in mid February. Donations will be picked up by FAL volunteers from your home using COVID safety precautions. To sign up for a donation pick-up week, please call the book space in the main library starting February 10 on any Thursday, Friday or Saturday between noon - 4 p.m. at 510-747-7737.

Many thanks to the very hardworking Used Book Sales committee from all

of us at FAL. We appreciate all that you are doing.

**Mark your calendars:**

February 10, 12 - 4 p.m.: Used book sales begin at Main Library

March 12, 12 - 4 p.m.: Mysteries pop-up sale, Stafford Room, Main Library

April 9, 12 - 4 p.m.: Pop-up sale, Stafford Room, Main Library

June 4, 12 - 4 p.m.: Pop-up, Stafford Room, Main Library

October 21, 22, 23: Used Book Sale, O' Club, Alameda Point

## **Dewey's Cafe reopening**

We are pleased to announce that Dewey's Cafe is reopening Tuesday, January 18th at noon. The cafe will be open Monday through Friday 12-4 p.m. Seating will be spaced for safety, but drinks and snacks will once again be available. Masks are required when not eating or drinking. Take a library break and come to Dewey's Cafe.

## **Call for volunteers**

We have many volunteer opportunities available to you. Whether you want to volunteer from home or come to us, we have abundant need for people with a variety of skills. Please click [here to learn more](#).

## **Call for board members**

Friends of the Alameda Free Library (FAL) is accepting applications from members of the Alameda community who would like to serve on our Board of Directors. We are looking for applicants who reflect the diversity of the Alameda community and would like to enhance their leadership skills while advocating for a strong, vibrant library. To apply, please send a letter of interest to [volunteer@alamedafriends.com](mailto:volunteer@alamedafriends.com). Please indicate why you are interested in serving on the Board and how your background and expertise could support the Board.

FAL is a nonprofit organization that contributes to the ongoing services and growth of the Alameda Free Library and supports its services and programs through advocacy, volunteerism, and fundraising to supplement public funding. To learn more, visit our website at <https://alamedafriends.com>.



**Larissa Zimmeroff**  
**Author**

***Technically Food***

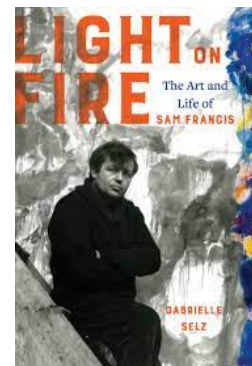
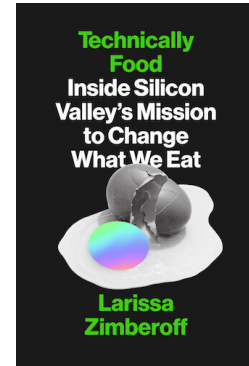
**January 19 @ 7 p.m.**

*TECHNICALLY FOOD:*  
*Inside Silicon Valley's Mission*  
*to Change What We Eat* by  
investigative reporter Larissa  
Zimmeroff is the first

comprehensive survey of the food companies at the  
forefront of this booming business.

Find more information [here](#).

Register [here](#).



**Gabrielle Selz**  
**Author**



***Light on Fire: The Life and Art of Sam Francis***

**February 2 @ 7 p.m.**

Light on Fire is the first comprehensive biography of Sam Francis, one of the most important American abstract artists of the twentieth century. Based on Gabrielle Selz's unprecedented access to Francis's files, as well as private correspondence and hundreds of interviews, this book traces the extraordinary and ultimately tragic journey of a complex and charismatic artist.

Find more information [here](#).  
Register [here](#).



**Jacob Lawrence**

**Art Docent Event**

**February 7 @ 7 p.m.**

On the Road with Jacob Lawrence - The Migration Series 1940-1941.

In observance of Black History Month, The Friends of the Alameda Free Library present a docent program on one of America's greatest African American artists, Jacob Lawrence. The Migration Series is a 60 panel set of narrative paintings depicting the Great Migration, when hundreds of thousands of African Americans moved from the rural South to the urban North after World War I.

Find more information [here](#).  
Register [here](#).

**Syed Masood**  
**Author**



***The Bad Muslim Discount***

**February 25 @ 7 p.m.**



Following two families from Pakistan and Iraq in the 1990s to San Francisco in 2016, *The Bad Muslim Discount* is an inclusive, comic novel about Muslim immigrants finding their way in modern America.

Find more information [here](#).

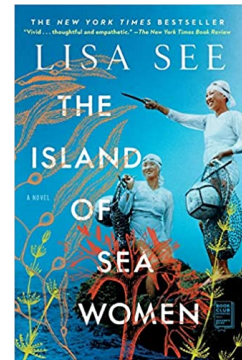
Register [here](#).



**Lisa See**  
**Author**

***The Island of Sea Women***

**March 16 @ 7 p.m.**



A vivid and thoughtful novel about two girls who join the other women in their community as sea

divers. They have many adventures and experience some dangers as well. The novel follows them throughout their lives which go in different directions.

Find more information [here](#).

Register [here](#).

**Find us on YouTube**





We record as many events as possible, copyright permitting. If you have missed a Friends @ Home event, you may be able to find a recording online. [Check our website](#) or 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



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