



Dear Friend,

Welcome to our July 2022 newsletter. We have exciting programs and news to tell you about. Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter and please invite your friends to join us!

-The FAL Board

[Join Mailing List](#)

## President's message by Karen Butter



The Books for Friends grand opening and our third Pop-Up Used Book Sale were very successful this past weekend! 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!

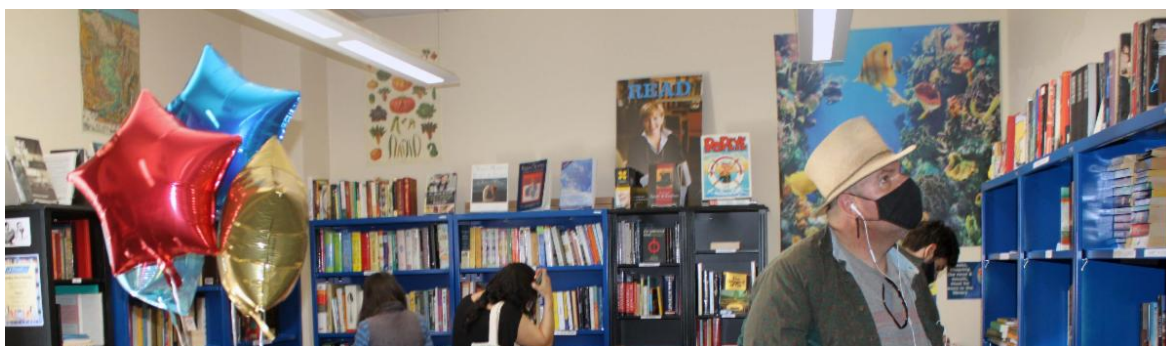
## **Welcome Cathy Peloquin to the FAL board**



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!

## **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.

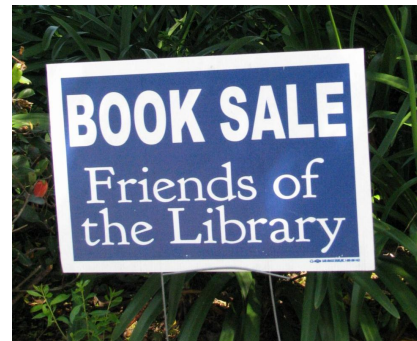


FAL thanks all the patrons, from the youngest up, for helping make the sale such a success. We plan to have more pop-up sales in the future.

## October Used Book Sale

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 here](#) to see our most up to date status.

## We need you!

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. We are in need of people interested in managing our Communications Committee, staffing Dewey's



Friends Cafe, staffing Books for Friends, or working on the various book sale events. Please click [here to learn more.](#)



## 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.](#)

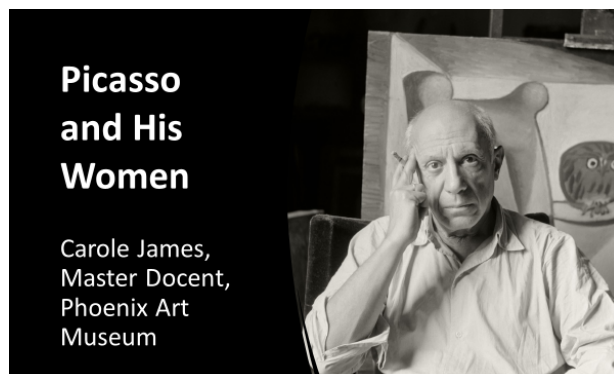


## Picasso and His Women

### Art Docent Event

**July 13 @ 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.

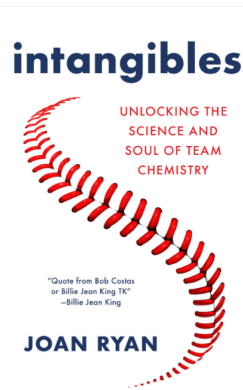


We'll be guided in this exploration by Phoenix Art Museum master docent

Carole James.

Find out more [here](#).

Register [here](#).



**Joan Ryan  
Author**

***intangibles:  
Unlocking the  
Science and Soul  
of Team Chemistry***

**July 18 @ 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?

For more information or to register [click here](#).

## **Obama Portraits**

### **Art Docent Event**

**July 27 @ 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.

We will be guided in this discussion by Mike Madrid, a docent of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museums since 2019.

Find out more [here](#).

Register [here](#).



## **Buenos Aires: Tango & Impressionism**

**Art Docent Event**

**August 10 @ 7 p.m.**

This presentation features the art of Benito Quinquela Martín 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 Martín is recognized as a great artist worldwide for his inherent talent and profound love of color and tango music.

Our guide for this fascinating talk will be Phoenix Art Museum docent Isabel Ballerna, who recently presented a program on the relationship between Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. Isabel is a native of Buenos Aires.

Find out more [here](#).

Register [here](#).

## **Ramses the Great**

**Art Docent Event**

**August 31 @ 7 p.m.**

Ramses II, known as Ramses the Great, was the most celebrated and powerful pharaoh of the New Kingdom, which was Egypt’s golden age. Believed to be a living god, Ramses ruled



for 67 years, erecting enormous temples, obelisks, and statues while also expanding

Egypt's empire. *Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs* features one of the greatest collection of Egyptian artifacts ever to travel to the United States. This talk will explore Ramses' life and discuss the marvelous treasures in this exhibition, from the pharaoh's colossal royal sculpture to mummies and exquisite Egyptian jewelry.

We will be guided through this exhibit by one of our favorite art docents, Marsha Holm.

Find out more [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



**Visit our Website**