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President's message by Karen Butter



Our Mini Used Book Sale in May was a wonderful success, delighting buyers and reducing our inventory by half. Many Book Sale shoppers found great bargains right across the hall at BFF, too! Thanks to Cindy Silva and Billy Reinschmiedt for coordinating the sale, Susan Schonberg for scheduling volunteers, and our hardworking team of volunteers for lifting boxes, organizing tables and checking out

purchases. We hope everyone will join us again for the Big Used Book Sale at the O'Club on October 20-22.

Each year, the Alameda Free Library holds a summer reading program funded by your donations. This year's theme is *Find Your Voice*. The [program](#) encourages

children to read for 12 hours and complete 12 activities between June 1 and July 31. The more challenges children complete, the more prizes are awarded. Children who complete Level 2 get to choose their very own book to keep, and those who achieve Level 3 receive even more prizes! FAL is a very proud sponsor of this program.



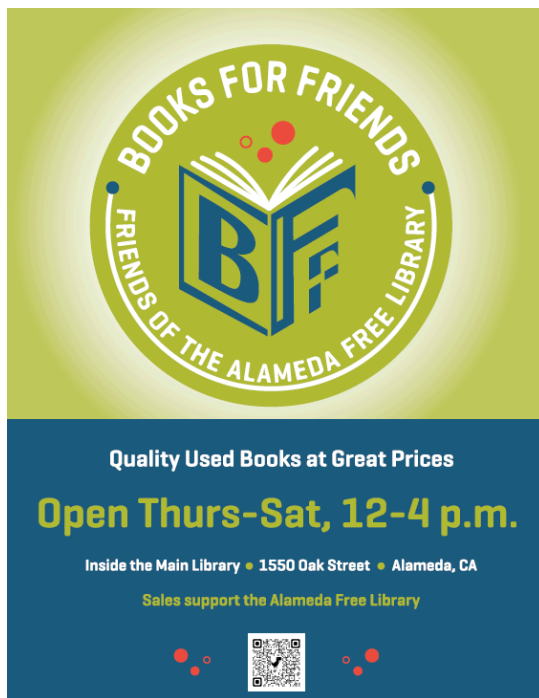
Dewey's Friends Cafe is currently seeking community members' feedback on space design and food. Stop by the cafe sometime to pick up a survey (and a snack or two). Your feedback will help us build a new and improved cafe experience.

Finally, I encourage all Alamedans to visit the Library's new exhibit in the Stafford Room, "Overflowing with Hope: The Hidden History of Japanese Americans in Alameda," open now until July 23. At the turn of the century, many Japanese people immigrated to Alameda, where they

built a thriving community. On February 2, 1942, the government designated Alameda as a Restricted Area due to the presence of the Naval Air Station. When President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, Japanese Americans in Alameda were the first Californian group to be evacuated and eventually relocated to Topaz Mountain in Utah. All signs of Japantown vanished.

The library's exhibit is the first of three parts in the [Japanese American History Project](#) funded by the National Park Service. This part documents the removal of citizens and businesses through images, testimonies and artifacts. In addition to the library's exhibit, the material will be archived in the [Densho Digital Repository](#) and the [Internet Archive](#). Library Director Jane Chisaki submitted the grant and worked with partners from the Buena Vista United Methodist Church, the Buddhist Temple of Alameda, the Internet Archive and Rhythmix Cultural Works to make this project possible. [Brad Shirakawa](#) is the Project Director.

Books For Friends



Books For Friends

Quality used books at great prices!

When the sign is out, BFF is open! We offer new selections of books every month. This is a terrific place to stock up on summer vacation reading, find hidden gems, and snag a graduation gift.

We also offer gift cards — a perfect gift for dads and grads!

FAL Board Member Emeritus Honora Murphy

Honora Murphy - a longtime supporter of the Alameda Free Library, one of the key movers in building the Main Library, and a founder of FAL - made a surprise visit to the library in early May. FAL President Karen Butter and BFF volunteer Kris Venturini were thrilled to welcome Honora to FAL's used bookstore, Books for Friends.

A tireless advocate for children, education, disability rights and libraries, Honora also founded the Alameda Collaborative for Children, Youth and their Families. The Alameda City Council awarded her with its Lifetime Achievement Award in October 2017.



Honora's daughter Ann, who accompanied her to the library, said, "She will be 95 in August and this really keeps her going strong! She is talking about 100 after our visit! I also scored a vintage Betty Crocker cookbook I'm thrilled with at BFF! Thank you again! The library is everything she ever wanted it to be and much more thanks to you and the Friends."

Dewey's Friends Cafe



Drop by the cafe on your next visit to the library for a hot coffee and pastry to enjoy while you read, work on your computer, or chat with friends. Plus, take advantage of the nice weather by enjoying your food and drink out on the patio.

In July, we will be expanding our hours and adding new fresh-baked menu items and espresso drinks.

Pictured left: Honora Murphy, a major supporter of the Main Library's new building, enjoys a cookie and a cup of coffee in Dewey's Friends Cafe.

FAL Spring Fundraiser

You're invited to
FAL's Giving Circle Community!

Whether you are a past supporter or a new supporter, we'd love for you to join our Annual Fund Giving Circles. It's a small way of extending our personal thanks for all you do to keep the Library's programs and services running.

Supporter: \$100-\$249

Recognition on FAL website and online media.

Advocate: \$250-\$499

All Supporter Benefits

+ Complimentary regular-priced book at FAL's Big Sale or BFF.

Steward: \$500 +

All Advocate Benefits

+ Recognition on the Donor Board in the Library Lobby,
advance event notifications and more.

Join the Giving Circle community today!

Just scan the QR code below or click the button to donate.



Donate Now

Please direct questions to [Kelly Ground](#), our Fund Development Manager.

FAL Establishes a Library at Senior Housing

Pictured right: Deloris Wright and Allen Sweet inspect the book selections at an onsite library.

Small onsite libraries have been set up at Independence Plaza, a secure, 186-unit senior complex spread out over five buildings at Atlantic and Constitution Avenues. The libraries are located in the lounges of four of the five buildings.

To date, FAL volunteers have filled the libraries' shelves with genres such as fiction, mystery, history, non-fiction and poetry. We do our best to fulfill special requests whenever possible.



FAL has also been invited to develop a small library for the residents of the newly opened Dignity Village. The book selection area will be established in the Community Room. Special thanks to FAL board member Cindy Silva for spearheading this project! We look forward to providing this service to Dignity Village.

Coming events!

Friends @ Home Virtual Event | June 14



**Beyond Bollywood:
2,000 Years of Dance in Art**

Online Art Docent Event

June 14 @ 7 p.m.

Long before Bollywood films, dance played an exceptionally important role in the religious and cultural traditions of India and its neighbors. Dance has inspired the visual arts in the categories of destruction and creation, devotion, subjugation, glorification, and celebration.

Through July 10, 2023, the Asian Art Museum presents *Beyond Bollywood: 2000 Years of Dance in Art*, inviting all to discover the power of dance in the visual arts of India, Southeast Asia, and the Himalayas, where dancing plays a significant role in religion, mythology, and ceremony. Using objects from various geographic areas, the exhibit presents dance as a ubiquitous art form impacting cultures in India and beyond.

We are pleased to present a virtual docent talk on this exhibit, which will be led by Asian Art Museum docent Steve Zilles.

Find more information and register [here](#).

Friends @ Home Virtual Event | June 28

Author/Editor Torie Bosch and Contributor David Cassel

You Are Not Expected To Understand This: How 26 Lines of Code Changed the World

June 28 @ 6:30 p.m.
Online Event

Few of us give much thought to computer code or how it comes to be. The very word “code” makes it sound immutable or even inevitable. “You Are Not Expected to Understand This”



demonstrates that, far from being preordained, computer code is the result of very human decisions, ones we all live with when we use social media, take photos, drive our cars, and engage in a host of other activities.

Everything from law enforcement to space exploration relies on code written by people who, at the time, made choices and assumptions that would have long-lasting, profound implications for society. Torie Bosch, the First Opinion editor at STAT, brings together many of today’s leading technology experts to provide new perspectives on the code that shapes our lives. Torie will be joined in this conversation by one of the essay contributors to the book, David Cassel, who has written about technology for more than 25 years.

Learn more [here](#).

Register [here](#).

Friends @ Home Virtual Event | July 12



**Layers of Color:
Unfolding the Beauty
of Woodblock Prints**

**Online Art Docent
Event**

July 12 @ 7 p.m.

Japanese art is known for the beauty and variety of its woodblock prints. Not only did woodblock printing make art more accessible to a wider audience, but its techniques and characteristics have influenced other art forms, including Impressionism. As woodblock printing evolved over the years, it has served multiple purposes, including advertising posters, printed books, and promoting fashion icons.

Join Asian Art Museum docent Jim Brown on a journey through the history of this fascinating art form.

Find more information and register [here](#).

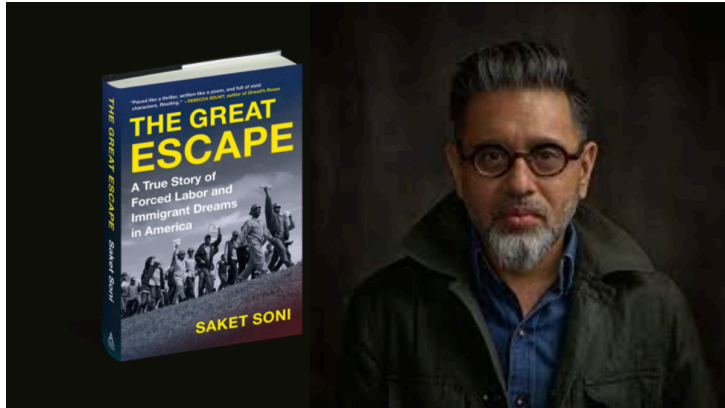
Friends @ Home Virtual Event | July 19

Author Saket Soni

The Great Escape

An Online Event

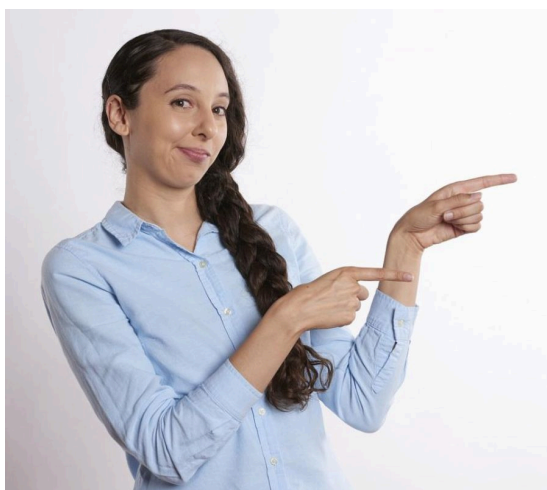
July 19 @ 7 p.m.



In late 2006, Saket Soni, a twenty-eight-year-old Indian-born community organizer, received an anonymous phone call from an Indian migrant worker in Mississippi. The worker was one of five hundred men trapped in squalid Gulf Coast “man camps,” surrounded by barbed wire, watched by guards, crammed into cold trailers with putrid toilets, forced to eat moldy bread and frozen rice. Recruiters had promised them good jobs and green cards. The men had scraped up \$20,000 each for this “opportunity” to rebuild hurricane-wrecked oil rigs, leaving their families in impossible debt. This the story of their determination to win their dignity and keep their promises to their families.

Find more information and register [here](#).

Looking for a way to give to your community?



We Need You!

Whether you can volunteer from home or in person, we'd love for you to join our team! We are a dedicated group of volunteers working to raise money for our wonderful library in a variety of ways. We are open to fresh ideas and new ways to raise funds.

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Find us on YouTube



Miss a Friends @ Home event, or want to rewatch your favorites? Simply [check our website](#) or subscribe to [our YouTube channel](#) to view the recordings. We record as many events as possible, copyright permitting. Enjoy!

We need your support!

Please forward this email to your friends and invite them to join us.

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Making a donation is easy!

Just click the button below.

Remember, your donations are tax deductible!



[Make a Donation](#)

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