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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear Friends,

This summer, the **Friends of the Alameda Free Library (FAL)** were once again proud to support the **Summer Reading Program**. This year marked a special milestone as we introduced **Books for Friends (BFF)** vouchers as one of the prizes. Many participants visited our bookstore for the first time, coupons in hand, and were delighted by our outstanding selection of books. We're excited to welcome these new readers back to BFF for many more visits in the future.



We are also delighted to support a new library initiative, the **Pathway to Learning Kits**. These nine kits, which can be checked out just like a book, cover a wide range of interests including astronomy, baking, birding, computer science, knitting & crochet, ukulele, mindfulness, and DIY learning. Each kit includes tools and instructions, and we encourage you to explore these kits and discover something new—though you might have to wait your turn for the astronomy kit, as it's the most popular and already has a waitlist!

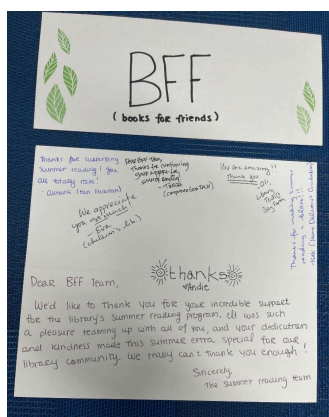
As we move into the fall, FAL is gearing up for our largest used book sale of the year, which will take place from October 23 to 26. We're extending special invitations to Alameda teachers for an exclusive preview on October 23rd, where they can have first pick of the selections. Additionally, BFF will be offering a special buy one, get one promotion during the sale, and both BFF and the Café will be open to enhance your shopping experience. We will be issuing a call for volunteers to help make this event a success, so keep an eye on your email for an invitation to sign up. I look forward to seeing our incredible supporters and volunteers there!

Warm regards,

## Summer Reading Program 2024

### A Record Breaking Success

This year's **Summer Reading Program** was an incredible success, with participation numbers far exceeding our expectations. Thanks to the enthusiasm and support from our community, we reached new heights in 2024!



This year's success is a testament to the hard work of our staff, volunteers, and the enthusiastic participation of our community members. We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Tuckers Ice Cream**, whose generous support with prizes added an extra layer of excitement to the program. Additionally, 231 vouchers for free used books, up to a \$10 value, were cashed in at **Books for Friends**, which were one of the prizes offered this year.

We're thrilled with the results and are already looking forward to building on this momentum for next year. Let's keep this energy going as we continue to foster a love of reading in our community!

## Books For Friends (BFF)

### Your Community's Curated Bookshop

### How to Donate Books to the Friends of the Alameda Free Library

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our regular donors who continuously support the **Friends of the Alameda Free Library (FAL)** through their generous book donations. For those new to donating, or anyone looking for the latest information, here are the most up-to-date guidelines on how to contribute to our efforts.

Your donations to **Books for Friends (BFF)** are sold to raise funds that directly support the work of FAL, helping us to continue providing valuable resources and programs to the community. The bookstore is entirely run by volunteers, ensuring that all proceeds go directly toward our mission.



## Important Donation Guidelines

- **Donations are by appointment only:** Please do not leave your donations at the library or outside of the library without an appointment. The library does not have the staff to support the collection or sorting of donations.
- **Preferred Donations:** We gladly accept fiction (including Mystery, Science Fiction, and Contemporary Fiction), cookbooks, art books, history books, children's and teen/tween books, graphic novels, CDs, and DVDs.
- **Items We Cannot Accept:** We are unable to accept books in less than very good condition (poor binding, marginalia, etc.), cassette tapes, VHS tapes, computer books or games, encyclopedias, magazines, reference books/medical books over 10 years old, textbooks, foreign language books (except children's foreign language books), current affairs, and science and classical books.

Donations are accepted year-round, but there may be times when we are temporarily unable to accept donations due to the high volume of books received from our generous donors. To make an appointment, please fill out the form on our website [here](#).

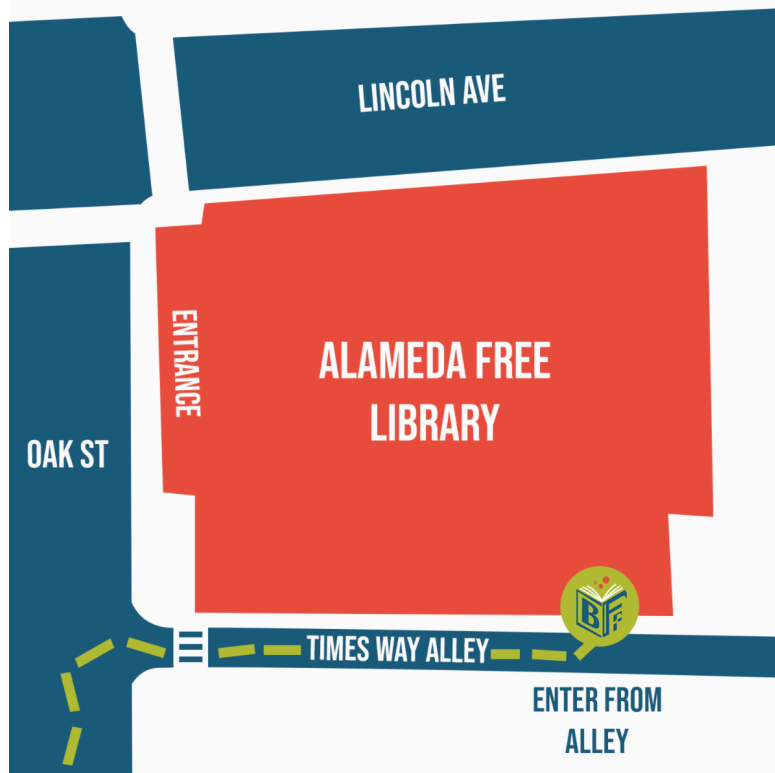
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## BFF Bookshop Hours:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday | 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Entrance from Main Library (down the hall from the Café). Outside entrance from Times Way Alley (see the map below)

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## Remembering Nancy Roberts A Celebration of a Life Well-Lived



The **Friends of the Alameda Free Library** are deeply saddened by the passing of **Nancy Roberts**, a beloved member of our library community. Nancy's dedication and passion for the library left an indelible mark on all who knew her, and her legacy continues to inspire us today. Nancy served the Alameda Free Library for decades, particularly through her work with the Homebound program.

She brought the joy of reading to those who couldn't visit the library, carefully curating book selections that became a source of comfort and connection for many. Nancy's contributions to the library were immeasurable; she played a pivotal role in creating a welcoming and enriching environment for patrons of all ages.

In her honor, friends, family, and community members have generously donated to the Friends of the Alameda Free Library. These gifts, made in memory of Nancy, will support the very programs and resources she

championed. Thanks to the support of these donors, Nancy's passion for learning and community will continue to flourish within our library.

We are profoundly grateful for the outpouring of love and support in Nancy's memory. Her legacy lives on not only through the programs and services she helped to establish but also in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing her. Nancy will always be remembered for her unwavering dedication to the library and the community she served so faithfully. Her spirit of generosity and her love for the written word will continue to inspire us all.

**In Memory of Nancy Roberts** If you would like to make a donation in memory of Nancy you may do so [here](#).

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## Donate to Friends of the Alameda Free Library Today!



A donation today will help keep the Library full of the books, music, films, and activities we all need and enjoy.

**[Click here to contribute!](#)**

Have you already donated to our Spring Campaign? FAL and your fellow library fans thank you!

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## A Big Thank You to Our 4th of July Parade Team!

The Friends of the Alameda Free Library were thrilled to participate in this year's 4th of July parade, and it wouldn't have been possible without our amazing volunteers and board members.



Special thanks to Karen Butter, Serena Hom, Karen Manuel, Joanne Schneider, Marcie Soslau, Beth Sibley, Billy Reinschmiedt, Josephine Sam, Kris Venturini, Lynda Williams, Marilyn Ng, Ruby Soslau Johnson, and Steven Johnson for their planning, decorating, organizing, and walking efforts. Our team walked over 4 miles, handed out 3,000 bookmarks, and distributed 200 free book coupons for BFF.

Our entry received cheers from the crowd, making the day a resounding success. Thank you all for your dedication and hard work!

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## Come Visit the Library Cafe

It's still hot, vacations are winding down, and everyone's gearing up for school. What better time to visit the Library Café for a fun drink, a snack, and maybe even a game? Pokémon,

anyone?

The Café also welcomes visitors from across the East Bay. A former Alameda resident, now living in Livermore, brought their children to explore all the fun nooks and crannies of the Alameda Library, including the Library Café.

The Library Café is the perfect after-school stop to replenish all that energy spent during the day. Whether you're in the mood for a sweet treat or something healthier, we have a variety of options. Open daily until 4:00 p.m., we'll make sure you're fueled up and ready to tackle that homework. We look forward to seeing you! Thank you all for stopping by the Library Café.

## Upcoming FAL Events



**And the Home of the Brave!**  
**Zoom Art Docent Event**  
**Wednesday, Sept 11 @ 7:00 p.m.**  
**[Register here](#)**

*And the Home of the Brave!* A thought-provoking discussion of how artists have captured the joys, sorrows, and pivotal moments that have shaped our nation's future. This

event offers a unique opportunity to reflect on the records, remembrances, and reminders of history through the lens of art.

Presented by Master Docent Sherry. Kopoot of the Phoenix Art Museum.

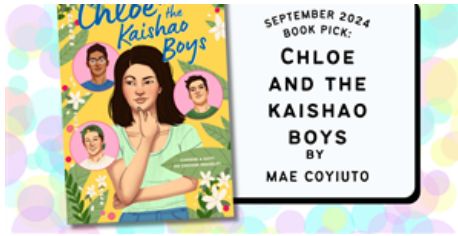
## Alameda Free Library Events

*Sponsored by FAL*

All events are free and open to the public. Visit [www.alamedafree.org](http://www.alamedafree.org) for the full events calendar or call the Library at 510-747-7777 for more information.

## FOR KIDS, TWEENS, TEENS and FAMILIES

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**Teen Book Club**  
**September 4, 4:00 - 4:40 p.m.**  
Alameda Free Library  
Main Branch, 1550 Oak St.

Teens, join our book club!  
Each month, members get to choose the book we read. While supplies last, free copies are given out on a first-come, first-served basis. To join, please register [here](#). We will meet in the [Stafford Room](#) at the Main Library.

This event is made possible by Friends of the Alameda Free Library.



**Teen Dungeons & Dragons**  
**September 19, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**  
Alameda Free Library  
Main Branch, 1550 Oak St.

Teens, are you looking for an incredible adventure? Look no further than Dungeons & Dragons (D&D)! Create your own character and embark on an epic journey with fellow adventurers.

No experience needed. Character sheets, dice, and rules explanations provided. Register [here](#) to join.

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## FOR ADULTS

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**A Cup of Coffee and a Good Book Club**  
**September 18th**  
Islandia Clubhouse  
1138 Island Dr, Bay Farm Island



**Make It**  
**September 4th, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**  
Alameda Free Library  
Main Branch, 1550 Oak St.

Instead of a monthly book everyone reads, A Cup of Coffee and a Good Book Club will discuss what everyone reads on a common theme. The September theme is New England (fiction and nonfiction). Please email the facilitator, Lynda, at [llyndaw@gmail.com](mailto:llyndaw@gmail.com) for more information about the next meeting.

Calling all knitters, crocheters, embroidery enthusiasts, and fiber ateliers! Please join us in the Family Study Room at Main for a fiber arts craft circle. Please bring your own project, materials, and expertise. Limited instruction available!

## Get the latest on FAL news and events!



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