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## FAL presents two programs in honor of Black History Month

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### Black Youth: Exploring the road to success

Kiki Devoramonifa returns to moderate this year's panel. We will be exploring the affects of racism on young people. Panelists will include:

Oral Lee Brown: REALTOR® who has helped over 135 children attend college

Michelle McAfee: Educator - Park Day School

Ron Whittaker: Founding parent and board member at The Academy of Alameda

Sunday February 2, 2020

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Main Library



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### Art Docent Lecture: Soul of a Nation, 1963-1983



Wadsworth Jarrell, Black Prince, 1971

Join us at the library for an evening of art and conversation about race, identity, representation, civil rights, and politics. Marsha Holm, our excellent docent, will present and discuss images from the DeYoung Museum. The DeYoung's exhibit focusing on art of Black Bay Area artists from these 2 important decades.

Come early – our most recent art docent talk was filled to capacity! You can read more about this exciting exhibit on the de Young Museum's website <https://deyoung.famsf.org/exhibitions/soul-of-a-nation>.

Monday February 10, 2020

6:30 p.m., Main Library

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### Rotary grant helps fund FAL Black History Month events

Friends of the Alameda Free Library received a grant from Alameda's Rotary Club to support these Black History Month programs. Board member Karen Manuel accepted a check for \$1000 from the Rotary Club at their recent meeting. FAL deeply and sincerely thanks the Rotary Club for their generous support.



## The Alameda Author Series returns

The fourth annual Alameda Authors Series, sponsored by FAL and Alameda Branch of AAUW, returns with award winning journalist and book author Jeneé Darden. Ms. Darden will speak about her book, *Where a Purple Rose Blooms*. The book is a collection of poetry and essays that reflect writer Jeneé Darden’s journey through Black womanhood. With heart and humor, Darden engages us in conversations about race, love, sex, and mental health. Like a rose, being a Black woman in this society comes with its thorns and beauty.

Wednesday February 12, 2020  
6 p.m. Main Library

## Volunteers needed

The **Book Sale** team would love to have a couple more volunteers able to work a few hours a week to sort, price, and box up our donated books. Shifts are available on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays during regular library hours. To help sort, or if you’d like to help out during the next sale, please email [falbooksale@icloud.com](mailto:falbooksale@icloud.com).  
**Next Used Book Sale:** May 1 - 3, 2020



**Dewey’s Friends Café** is looking for volunteers. The café serves prepared food and drinks to library patrons, while the library is open and during special events. The café is a service to the community and also a fundraising activity for FAL. This is a fun and social volunteer opportunity. We need volunteers to work at the café and also a few volunteers who would like to help manage the café. Please email [Volunteer@AlamedaFriends.com](mailto:Volunteer@AlamedaFriends.com) to volunteer.

## November was “Thank a Friend of the Library” month



Many library patrons stopped by the “Thank a Friend” display at the main branch in November to write a note thanking us for providing funds to the library. We are very grateful for the warm and heartfelt words of thanks.

Our ability to provide these funds is dependent upon your support through direct donations, attending our concerts, donating and buying used books, and buying food and drinks at Dewey’s Café. Thank you for your ongoing support.

To help spread the word about FAL’s work, be sure to “like” our Facebook page the next time you’re on Facebook. If you click to “get notifications,” that makes sure you’ll see our posts in your news feed. It also helps if you share our posts to your Facebook friends. [@friendsalamedafreelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/friendsalamedafreelibrary)



# Live @ the Library concert series closes with Dmitri Matheny Quintet

By David Beall

On the evening of November 16<sup>th</sup> the Friends presented the last of the year's Live @ the Library concerts. The show featured the Dmitri Matheny quintet, a jazz group with Charles McNeal on tenor sax, Matt Clark on piano, John Wiitala on bass fiddle, Leon Joyce Jr. on drums, and Matheny on flugelhorn.

The flugelhorn is a brass instrument, shaped like a trumpet, but a little larger. Its tone is less sharp and sounds like a slightly muted trumpet. It seems to make an excellent component of a small jazz ensemble.



Photo by Billy Reinschmiedt

Matheny told the sold out audience that his aim was to indulge them in the breadth of the American songbook. The group certainly accomplished that: Burt Bacharach's "The Look of Love," Stevie Wonder's "Isn't She Lovely," The Carpenters' "Close to You," Glen Campbell's "Wichita Lineman," and Rodgers and Hammerstein's "People Will Say We're in Love" from *Oklahoma!* showed off an amazingly eclectic repertoire. (Not to mention the main title theme music from *Game of Thrones*.) The group also played an original piece by Matheny, called "Cascadia," an homage to his home in the Pacific Northwest. They closed the show with Duke Ellington's "Caravan."

This concert certainly upheld the Live @ the Library tradition of presenting world-class jazz performers in an intimate setting. After the show several audience members were heard remarking that they were impatient for next year's series

## Help FAL save money!

It costs \$1.25 to print and mail each newsletter; money for printing all the newsletters could go to library programs FAL supports. If you can switch to the online version, please let us know by sending your email address to:



[info@AlamedaFriends.com](mailto:info@AlamedaFriends.com)

## CORRECTIONS

FAL's tax ID number in a recent donation appeal letter was incorrect. The correct number is **23-7437087**.

In our last newsletter, we asked for volunteers for our fundraising committee. The email address was wrong. Please use **[Volunteer@AlamedaFriends.com](mailto:Volunteer@AlamedaFriends.com)**

## Mission: Friends of the Alameda Free Library

- ◆ To provide a variety of ways to contribute to the ongoing services and growth of the Alameda Free Library for the enjoyment and benefit of the entire community.
- ◆ To act as steward for the library and its many services and programs through advocacy, volunteerism, and fund-raising to supplement public funding.

Newsletter Production: Karen Roemer, Karen Manuel

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Friends of the Alameda Free Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Tax ID 23-7437087

*Friends*  
of the  
Alameda  
Free Library

P.O. Box 1024

Alameda, CA 94501

Return Service Requested

## Coming Events

**February 2, 2020: Black Youth: Exploring The Road to Success**  
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**February 10, 2020: Docent Lecture: Soul of a Nation, 1963-1983**  
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

**February 12, 2020: FAL/AAUW Author Series: Jenee Darden:**  
*When a Purple Rose Blooms*  
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch, 6:00 p.m.

**March 11, 2020:** Alameda Author Series: Mark Greenside

**March 16, 2020:** Docent Lecture: Frida Kahlo

**April 13, 2020:** Docent Lecture: David Park

**April 20, 2020 :** Alameda Author Series: Edna Cabecabin Moran

**May 1-3, 2020:** Used Book Sale

**May 20, 2020:** Alameda Author Series: Bronwyn Harris



## Stay in touch!

Information: [info@alamedafriends.com](mailto:info@alamedafriends.com)

Become a volunteer: [volunteer@alamedafriends.com](mailto:volunteer@alamedafriends.com)

Donate funds, services, etc.: [donate@alamedafriends.com](mailto:donate@alamedafriends.com)

For the latest information on Friends events, check our website: [www.alamedafriends.com](http://www.alamedafriends.com).