

FAL President's Message

Our 50th anniversary events are underway!

Community members and FAL volunteers enjoyed the library's Lunar New Year celebration, complete with treats and crafts in the specially decorated Stafford Room and the Friends Café.

If you're looking for film recommendations, I highly recommend the short documentary "The ABCs of Book Banning," which was nominated for an Academy Award. In the film, children and young adults express their need for books on LGBTQ identities, race issues, the reality of war and the realities of growing up. The film is available on the Kanopy app and on Paramount+.



On a more somber note, I am heartbroken to share the news that Honora Murphy has passed away. She fought for a new Alameda library for more than thirty-five years. Alameda extends its greatest and sincerest thanks to Honora for her years of dedicated service. —Karen Butter

Remembering Honora Murphy



FAL members are deeply saddened by the recent loss of one of our amazing founders, Honora Murphy, who passed away at the age of 95 on February 16, 2024. She worked tirelessly to improve our lives and built a legacy for Alameda that is unmatched.

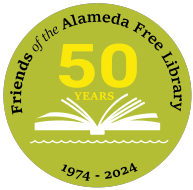
As a mother of fourteen children, she focused much of her work on children's welfare. For years, Honora fought for a new library, leading several library bond campaigns including the successful Measure O campaign, which led to the construction of our beautiful Main Library on Oak Street. Honora was a founding member of Friends of the Alameda Free Library and served as one of its first Board presidents.

For fifty years, she led efforts for education, disability advocacy, and civic involvement. In 2016, the Alameda City Council honored her with its Lifetime Achievement Award. As former FAL President Luzanne Engh noted, Honora was a "remarkable woman, wife, mother, nurse, and community leader, as well as FAL founder and advocate."



For those who wish to celebrate her, the family is requesting donations to FAL in memory of Honora. You can donate at this link: tinyurl.com/38cuzjj

FAL celebrates 50 years of service



In 1974, the honorable women of the Brown Baggers —Honora Murphy, Kate Quick, Barbara Kahn, Lois Hanna, Donna Vaughn, Alice Huie, Ann Muir, and Eleanor Stallman—founded Friends of the Alameda Free Library (FAL). Alongside fellow library lovers, they began the campaign for a new, modern library and worked for years to see the completion of the Main Library in 2006.

Since its founding, FAL has grown in its mission to support and advocate for the success of Alameda's libraries. We would love for you to join our upcoming events to celebrate our golden anniversary and continue supporting our libraries so that they may thrive for another fifty years. Stay tuned for more information!

In recognition of our 50th anniversary, we have special Giving Tier benefits. Learn more and donate at alamedafriends.com/giving-tiers or scan this QR code.



Lunar New Year at the Library



FAL partnered with the library to celebrate the Year of the Dragon on February 10! Children listened as author Kuang Lee read his book *Mei and the Monkey King* at a special story time event, then made red envelopes and colorful dragon puppets. There was no shortage of excitement and festivities that day!



Books For Friends celebrates two years



March 17 was Books For Friends' two-year anniversary! BFF will have displays for Women's History Month and Irish-American Heritage Month, so please come by and check them out. For a \$10 donation, you can get a tote bag, too.

BFF Hours: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Noon to 4 p.m.

Shop local! 100% of all proceeds benefit the Alameda Free Library. Please find book donation instructions at tinyurl.com/4kbpjfj5 or scan the QR code



Meet up with friends at Friends Café



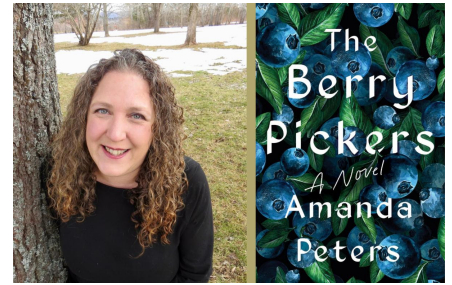
The Friends Café is seeing more and more groups use this space for their activities. Recently, one of the Alameda knitting groups shared their beautiful work with café patrons. We are happy to reserve a table (or several) for your group—just let us know in advance!

We're also offering Firebrand pastries as well as new Asian and Latin American snacks every day that we're open.

Upcoming Events

Author Talk: Amanda Peters, *The Berry Pickers* - April 3, 7 p.m.

July, 1962. A four-year-old Mi'kmaq girl named Ruthie, the family's youngest child, vanishes. In Maine, a young girl named Norma grows up troubled by recurring dreams and visions that seem more like memories; she comes to realize there is something her overprotective mother and distant father aren't telling her. Author Amanda Peters is a writer of Mi'kmaq and settler ancestry. Her debut novel is the Winner of the Andrew Carnegie Medal of Excellence in Fiction and the 2023 Barnes & Noble Discovery Prize Winner.



Register at: <https://shorturl.at/dmn02> or scan the QR code →



Adopt-a-Pet Day at Bay Farm Island branch! April 6, 1 - 4 p.m.



Join us for a fun afternoon for all ages in celebration of pets! The Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter (FAAS) will have their mobile adoption vehicle onsite at the Bay Farm Island Library. Come and meet the wonderful animals available for adoption!

We will also host a dog and cat cartooning workshop from 1-3 p.m.

Artist Brian Kolm will teach you how to draw dog and cat cartoons! Open to ages seven through adult. Space is limited; please call (510) 747-7787 to reserve your spot.

This event will take place at 3221 Mecartney Rd., and is made possible through the generosity of Friends of the Alameda Free Library.



Docent Talk: The Art of Volume, Fernando Botero - April 17, 7 p.m.

Fernando Botero's unique style is instantly recognizable. His subjects exist in a universe populated by exaggerated, seemingly larger-than-life beings, at once both solid and voluptuous. His work is an assault on what is held to be timeless canons of beauty and ideal proportions.

Our presenter Isabel Ballerna has been a docent at the Phoenix Art Museum since 2014 and is also an artist and interior designer.



Register at: <https://shorturl.at/hinuU> or scan the QR code →



Friends
of the
Alameda
Free Library

Friends of the Alameda Free Library
P.O. Box 1024
Alameda, CA 94501

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Friends of Alameda Free Library Mission and Vision

Mission: To raise funds and advocate for the success of the Alameda Free Library

Vision: To have a vibrant and relevant library that is the heart of our diverse Alameda community

Stay in touch! Email us:

For information: info@alamedafriends.com

To volunteer: volunteer@alamedafriends.com

To donate funds, books, etc.: donate@alamedafriends.com

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