

THE OPEN BOOK

Vol. XXVIII

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www.powayfriends.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2019! The past year seemed to fly by. The Friends of the Poway Library have a lot to be thankful for. We were able to support our library with programs and materials due to our commitment to provide additional funding.

You have made that possible with your membership in the Friends and the generous support of our Book Store. To the volunteers who give untold hours behind the scene and to the volunteers in the store my sincere thank you.

Look for the picture of our branch librarian in her wedding finery. Congratulations to Pat and best wishes to Marisa.

Our first ever after hours program for the entire family was held on November 2nd. Dia de Los Muertos was a rousing success. Thank you to the team that put the event together.

During December the Friends in partnership with the GFWC Poway Woman's club hosted a Winter Holiday Art Exhibit. Our appreciation to the artists who participated.

We will be celebrating "Library Love" during February and special programs are planned.

Wishing you all the best.

Joye Davisson

Librarian's message - December 2018

Hello Poway Library Friends,



Thank you for your continued support and donations! Thanks to you we continue to offer educational and fun library programs for our community. Our team worked so hard this past few months and hosted a variety of unique programs, and also increased our circulation during the month of November by more than 2,000 materials from November 2017!

Among the fall highlights, we hosted a very successful, first-time ever Dia de Los Muertos program, with an attendance of 400 people. High school students from across Poway, volunteers from the local chapter of the National Charity League, Friends President Joye Davisson, Friends Board member Sharron Watson, Friends volunteer Susan Casey Davis and Valley Elementary Parent Liaison Laura Garcia Gonzalez helped us plan, decorate and put on the event, Friday, November 1. The event featured a student middle school mariachi group leading a procession of community members carrying LED-candles to remember their loved ones around the library's block. There was also a live mariachi performance in the library's courtyard, a Balet Folklorico performance by local Arcoiris Folklorico, children's craft stations and mini taquitos for attendees to enjoy. In leading up to the large program, various branch staff hosted smaller programs educating the public about Dia de Los Muertos, including a face painting workshop for tweens and teens in October.

Two days after the Dia de Los Muertos program, youth Services Librarian Loretta Gibson hosted an equally successful Diwali event for the branch, which featured a henna artist painting henna tattoos on customers hands, local youth performers from Kathak Darshan School of Dance, and two craft stations.



Other notable highlights from the past three months:

More than 200 people attended our Santa visit in December.

The branch's regular Zumba instructor Julie Clemmons celebrated her birthday by leading a surprise flash mob in the library on Friday, December 14. She's sending the footage on to the Elle DeGeneres show in the hopes it will go viral!

This fall we also had a visit from the **Overdrive bookmobile**, and more than 100 customers took advantage of this special visit. They boarded the bookmobile to learn how to download E-books. Adult Services Librarian Karen Baluyot and new security guard Eric greeted and directed users to the bookmobile.



Thanks to a donation from the Friends, we now offer a new **Ukulele class for Tweens**, which is averaging about 20 tweens per meeting. A teen volunteer is teaching them how to play various songs on the Ukulele. Look for a future performance by this group in the branch's courtyard!

Finally, we added several new staff members to our branch staff - **Farah Mazhari**, a librarian who supports both the youth and adult services departments; **Laura Mendez**, the new Librarian overseeing our Adult Services department, **Paige Dillard**, a new Library Technician and **Rene Gehr**, a new Library Technician II. Read more about all of the new staff in this month's newsletter and make sure you drop in and say hello the next time you are here in the branch!

Looking ahead, some programs that may be of interest to you:

Healthier Living with Chronic Pain, a six-week series of workshops that will meet on Fridays at 11:30 a.m. beginning January 11. Developed by Stanford University, this class will teach participants new ways to manage their health challenges. Branch adult program volunteer Anjali will lead these classes. For more information about the classes, please call 858-495-5500 and leave a message. Registration for the class is required - email Karen.baluyot@sdcounty.ca.gov to register.

We added a **Zumba class on Monday nights at 6 p.m.** in the community room. This class is taught by local Zumba instructor Lisa Jose and is a great way to burn off those holiday calories.

You're invited to join for a screening of the documentary film "The Searchers" - the story of the researchers of the JFK Assassination. The screening will be followed by a video chat with the documentary's director, Randolph Benson, who will also discuss "The Documents of the JFK Assassination and Why They Matter."

Finally, we will be hosting this month the first in a three part series **educating the public about Alzheimer's**. Classes in coming months will cover the ten signs of Alzheimer and early detection, the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia and tips on healthy living for brain and body. The first class will meet on **Wednesday, January 16 at 6 p.m.**



And, on a lighter note, I was married in October at the Cuyamaca College Water Conversation garden. It was a beautiful day and venue. Here's a photo of my amazing day!

I hope to see you in the library in the New Year!

Marisa Lowe



My name is Paige Dillard and I'm currently a library technician here at the Poway library. I have been working with the San Diego County Library since 2014 and I love every second of it.

I am also studying to become a librarian through the Masters in Library and Information Science Program offered by San Jose State University (online). My passion is with public libraries, especially the Youth Services department, but I also love marketing and making our library look beautiful. I plan to continue my journey with the county library and hope to be a Youth Services Librarian within the next few years.

I have an Associate's degree and Bachelor's degree in English Literature from San Diego State University and am a self-published author. I write novels for adults and young adults, and also write poetry. I post some of my poetry on my Instagram page @pld.wolfwriter. While my writing has taken a backseat due to school, I try to find time to write at least once a week.

I am a huge Harry Potter fan, but also love Doctor Who, Studio Ghibli, Disney, and most paranormal books and movies. As you can guess, I'm usually pretty popular with the tweens and teens. But I also have a soft spot for authors Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte, Jack London, Jodi Picoult, and Chuck Palahniuk. If I had to pick a book I could not live without, it would be *Shadow Mountain* by Renee Askins, a memoir. I am a wildlife advocate and especially love wolves.

In my free time, other than writing, I enjoy reading (I am a bibliophile), spending time with my 11 pets, going to the movies, visiting the zoo, getting a new tattoo, or curling up at home and binge-watching some of my favorite movies and/or shows.

If you ever want to drop me an email, need a new and exciting book review, want to chat about Harry Potter or wolves, or just want to say hi, feel free to contact me at my work email, paige.dillard@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you in the library!



My name is Farrah Mazhari, and I am one of the librarians at The Poway Library. My position is to provide support to both Adult and Youth Services librarians.

Now a little about my background. I am originally from Iran. I moved to the United States almost 27 years ago after I got married. My first encounter with San Diego County Library was in the summer of 1998. We had recently moved to the area, and at the time I was not aware that San Diego has two library systems. I came to check out a movie for my son, but the librarian told me my San Diego Public card did not work there. I was so impressed with the library and the customer service that I received that day that I came back again and again, until on one my visits, I asked how I could get a job there.

My first job with the library was as a Library Technician substitute, and my home branch was Poway. After almost two years, I got a permanent position at Lakeside library. In about a month, I applied for a position at the Cataloging Department since my son was only four years old, and the flexible hours worked better with his school schedule. In the winter of 2003, I got accepted to San Jose State Library School where I began my journey to become a librarian.

My first job as a librarian was at El Cajon branch where I got to plan, promote, and implement programs for the Middle Eastern Community at several San Diego County Branches, including Poway. In fact Poway library was the host of many Nowruz (Persian New Year) celebrations which drew a large number of Iranian populations to the library. It all was possible due to the generosity of the Friends' of the library.

I will not be exaggerating, if I say the library has changed my life. There are few jobs out there that teach you something new every day. It feels good to see that your work makes a difference in someone else's life big or small. In my position as an adult services librarian at El Cajon, I was able to create programs that addressed the need of the immigrants. Programs such as bilingual Homework help, and Backgammon club created an environment that the newcomers felt respected and at home. I hope I will be able to provide meaningful programs and services at Poway library.

For me it feels like I am coming back home, as The Poway Library is the place that I started my library career.



Best Books of 2018 – recommended by Poway Library staff

A lot of books came out in 2018. Too many to read. So what's the one book from this year you really need to read? I talked with Poway library staff to find out the one book they loved or felt you have to check out. Here's what they had to say.

Adult Services Librarian Karen Baluyot recommends *Dear Mrs. Bird* by AJ Pearce (F Pearce)

Karen writes, Emmeline Lake has grand dreams of becoming a war correspondent and is over the moon when she applies for and gets a position at the London Evening Chronicle newspaper. However, her dreams are quickly dashed when due to a clerical error, she finds out that she has actually accepted a position at the magazine Women's Friend as a typist for the renowned advice columnist Henrietta Bird. Not to be deterred, Emmy decides to make the most of her new position which involves opening up the letters asking for advice and typing up Mrs. Bird's replies. Topics for requested advice range from how to get stains out of laundry, to how to deal with a cheating husband, and Mrs. Bird abhors the latter type of letters and simply cannot do with any unpleasantness, often blaming the letter writers for their predicaments. Mrs. Bird has a long list of topics she absolutely will not deal with and she directs Emmy to toss these letters into the bin unanswered. A number of letters tug at Emmy's heartstrings however and she finds herself responding on Mrs. Bird's behalf while trying to survive the nightly air raids and carving out a life in World War II England.



Our new Librarian II in Adult Services Laura Mendez recommends *The Great Believers* by Rebecca Makkai.

Mendez says that Rebecca Makkai's latest novel delivers a sweeping tale of love, friendship, and heartache. The meandering narrative, set in 1980s Chicago and contemporary Paris, draws parallels between the AIDS epidemic ravaging the LGBTQ community and the Lost Generation of WWI. The novel is balanced by two timelines that ultimately weave a story that is both utterly believable and compulsively readable. *The Great Believers* begins with an ending - a funeral. We find Yale Tishman and his partner Charlie preparing for their friend Nico's memorial service. As friends gather and gossip, Yale detects an undercurrent of fear rippling through their tight-knit community in Boystown, a gay village in Chicago. Whispers of sick friends, rumors about sudden disappearances, or the blunt reality of death. The AIDS epidemic is just beginning and within the span of 10 years will claim over 300,000 lives.

In a parallel story line 30 years later, Nico's younger sister Fiona travels to Paris in an attempt to locate her estranged daughter Claire and free her from the clutches of a cult leader. During this time, Fiona reunites with the celebrated photographer Richard Campo, who unflinchingly documented the AIDS epidemic. Surrounded by haunting photos and memories of her friends and family who passed too soon, Fiona comes to term with her life's course and the death of so many of her friends. Fans of the epic and devastating novel *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara will enjoy this beautiful story; Makkai fully engages the reader's heart and the narrative draws you in tightly.

Our new Library Technician I, Paige Dillard recommends: *Carry On* by Rainbow Rowell (YA F Rowell)

If you love magic, mystery, and romance (and loving Harry Potter wouldn't hurt, either), you are sure to love Young Adult and Adult author Rainbow Rowell's book "Carry On". Set in modern time, readers are immediately submerged into Simon Snow's life of being the "chosen one" who is expected to save the magical world from the Insidious Humdrum. With his close friend Penny, his more-than-probably vampire roommate Baz, and his recently ex-girlfriend Agatha, Simon is unexpectedly plunged into a magical murder mystery and begins to uncover secrets not only about the wizarding world, but about his friends, Baz, and most importantly, himself. While there is romance and tragedy, there is a happy ending as well. If you're looking for another magical adventure, be sure to read this book!

Branch Manager Marisa Lowe recommendations

My top choice is *Never Caught: the Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of their Runaway Slave*, Ona Judge by Erica Armstrong Dunbar (B Judge). However, since the book was reviewed in the last newsletter, I'm going to write about another one today. *Educated* by Tara Westover (B Westover) is the other book I recommend from this year. I like to read memoirs and this was one I found particularly compelling. Although *Educated* was a difficult book to read, it was impossible to put down. It is a memoir of Tara Westover growing up home-schooled with a survivalist Mormon family in Idaho. Tara's father is a religious fanatic, who keeps his family off the radar, does not file birth certificates for them, keeps the kids out of school, and does not get his family medical attention when they needed it most. Instead, the family relying on the mother's healing herbs and tinctures are used to treat the slightest scrape to the most horrible head injury or burns from gasoline to an explosion. It is such an unbelievable story, but yet it is true and one, in spite of the gut wrenching details, is beautifully written.

Don't Forget About **Library Love**

February is Library Love month at Poway Community Library. A number of special programs have been planned including a **pancake breakfast** that is offered free of charge while supplies last. During the pancake breakfast attendees will be entertained by the Twin Peaks Middle School Jazz Band.

There is also a big book sale on February 22 and 23. You will find reading material from A to Z all at the incredibly low price of 50 cents for hardbacks and trade books and 25 cents for paperbacks and children's book.

There will be two E Reader sessions , an Ikebana class and much more. Pick up a February calendar of events and learn more.

More Photos from our *Dia de Los Muertos* program

Teen volunteers dancing the night away.



Dia Event planning committee (L to R: Marisa Lowe, Branch Manager; Susan Casey Davis, Friends volunteer; Laura Gonzalez Garcia, Valley Elementary Parent Liaison; Joye Davisson, Friends of the Library President; Karen Baluyot, Adult Services Librarian)



Balet Folklorico performance by Arco Iris



Library volunteer Daniela Garcia and friend show off their costumes.



More Costume fun!



National Charity League volunteers pose by the craft table.

Friends of the Poway Library Membership Application

Membership year is September 1 to August 31.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family \$10/year <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$25/year <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor/Business \$50/year <input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$100/year <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$250/year <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime \$1000/one time only	Additional Donation for "Matching Funds" \$ <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Total Enclosed \$ <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check

Please make checks payable to: **Friends of the Poway Library, P. O. Box 1333, Poway, CA 92074-1333**

I would like to volunteer some of my time to help the *Friends*:
 On a Committee In the Library
 In the Book Store In the Book Store Workroom Book Sales Special Events
 Please do not mention my membership/donation in the Friends newsletter.

**The *Friends of the Poway Library* is a non-profit, volunteer organization.
Memberships and contribution are tax deductible as allowed by law.**

Poway Library

13137 Poway Road, Poway CA 92064

Hours

Mon-Thur 9:30AM - 8PM

Fri. and Sat. 9:30AM - 5PM

Sunday Noon - 5PM

Phone: 858-513-2900

Friends Bookstore

Hours

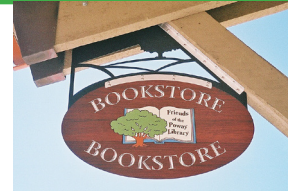
Tues - Thurs 9:30 AM to 7 PM

Friday & Saturday 9:30 AM to 4 PM

Sunday Noon to 4 PM

Telephone 858 513 2862

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Important Dates 2019

2019 Book Sales

February 23 & 24

June 15 & 16

October 19 & 20

Annual meeting

April 27