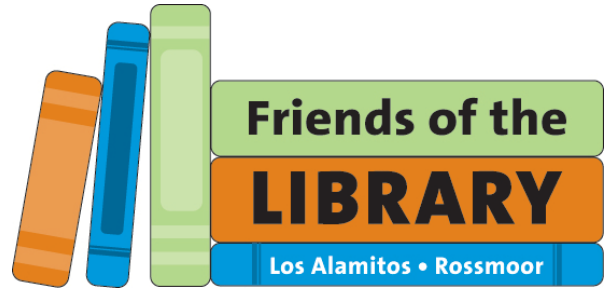


Library News

Winter 2022



Sounds of the Season

Enjoy Sounds of the Season with Members of the Los Alamitos High School Jazz Band

Enjoy an afternoon of classic straight-ahead jazz tunes performed by members of the Los Alamitos High School Jazz Band on **Saturday, December 17** at 2 pm.

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National Book Award Ceremony Spotlights Book Banning

Hosting the 2022 National Book Award Ceremony on November 16, Padma Lakshmi opened the festivities with a speech about the wave of book bans across America, "Deciding what books are in school libraries is the job of librarians, not politicians who want to continue to whitewash the country. I want my daughter to have access to what was missing from my classroom: the truth and not just the truth that isn't painful."

The Literarian Award for Outstanding Contribution to the American Literary Community went to the Executive Director of the American Library Association, Tracie D. Hall. When he announced the award, Dr. Ibram X Kendi spoke about the late senator John Lewis who as a child growing up in segregated Alabama wasn't allowed to attend local libraries. Kendi, author of *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You*, a target of book bans, denounced "tyrants taking away our right to read."

Hall is the first Black woman to lead the American Library Association. She dedicated her award to her grandmother Bessie Marie Sanders-Scott, "For her that her granddaughter can grow up in a library is an act of reparation." A former librarian, Hall lauded her fellow librarians who "are resisting censorship efforts to ensure every reader has the chance to see themselves represented on bookshelves. Let history show that librarians were on the frontlines of upholding our democracy." She continued her speech saying, "Tonight is a reflection of two groups of people: people who long to read and people who fight for the right to read. The right of reading is being politicized and weaponized....contemporary acts of censorship [have] surpassed the McCarthy Era, books have become contraband. Information wants to be free. Free people read freely."



2022
NATIONAL
BOOK
AWARDS

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Author Neil Gaiman presented The Medal for Distinguished Contributions to American Letters to his friend and Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Art Spiegelman, "Art is a mensch, but he is a genius... He combines visual art with literary art and he makes magic."

Spiegelman joked that he was so terrified of putting together a speech that he contemplated sending a suicide note instead, but had writer's block. "Against all odds, *Maus* became a blockbuster. It was rejected by every publisher in town. Now they're letting cartoonists into the great hall of literature. *Maus* was never made to teach anyone but me anything. To understand parents who were supposed to be dead long before I was born."

Gaiman's *Absolute Sandman* and Spiegelman's *Maus* are the most banned and challenged graphic novels in the country and both authors have been actively involved with Pen America to protest against book restrictions in schools. Referencing how his book about the holocaust has become a cause célèbre, Spiegelman warned, "as the clouds of fascism gather over a frying planet, perhaps *Maus* can be a cautionary tale: Never again." To watch the ceremony and see the winning books, go to <https://www.nationalbook.org/awards2022/>.



President's Message – Del Clark

Hello Friends,

As we prepare for the many activities during this busy holiday season, please mark your calendar to attend FOL's Holiday Program: LAHS Jazz Group, Saturday, December 17, at 2 pm at the library.

There has been a change in our program's dates and location. Traditionally, Friends' programs have occurred on Sunday afternoons in the "closed" library; however, this option is no longer available. All programs will now be held on Saturday afternoons while the library is open to the public. Our September "Book Banning" program was very successful at this new time.

On another note, we are still waiting for details regarding our library and book store renovations. Our library, book store, and bi-monthly book sales will all be closed during this period. We will keep our members informed throughout this major undertaking.

Also, FOL has launched our end-of-the-year fundraiser so that we can continue supporting our wonderful Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library! All donations are welcomed and appreciated!

Happy & Healthy Holidays!
Del

Gingerbread House Decorating at Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library



We want to help you get into the holiday spirit! Come on by and get creative at our annual decorating of your own gingerbread house! Join us on Thursday, December 22 from 11 am-1 pm or 4-6 pm. We'll provide the space, supplies, music, snacks, and even clean up the mess. Open to families! Sign-ups are required and begin Thursday, December 1! You will pick one 30-minute slot between 11 am and 1 pm or 4 pm and 6 pm. Call the branch at 562-430-1048 or email us at ocpl.lar@occr.ocgov.com to reserve your child's spot!

Teens are welcome to join in the fun on Monday, December 19 at 5 pm. Get caught up in holiday nostalgia by building your own Gingerbread House from graham crackers! Open to ages 11-18, drop-in with a friend to create your own magical house with all the supplies you could think of: coconut, marshmallows, chocolates, and more.



Join the Holiday Recipe Exchange

Join your fellow cooks and bakers in an exchange of holiday recipes on Monday December 19 at 10:30am. Pick up a form at the library at any time before the event. You can take it home and make copies, but copies will be available for pick-up through December.

From Outside the Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library



I love this time of year! The air is crisper and cooler, with even promises of rain occasionally. We have gathered together to remember our blessings with friends and family at Thanksgiving, and now we approach the special and wonderful time of Hanukkah and Christmas. Although the last outside sale of the year is over, you will find many books related to the holidays for sale on the patio. There are books on decorating, special holiday menus and tempting desserts and cookies. And, of course there are oodles of children's holiday books, perfect for tucking into a stocking, under the tree, or as a gift for one of the eight nights of Hanukkah. And when you are ready for a break from shopping, decorating, wrapping or baking, curl up with a Christmas yarn; we have plenty of those, too.

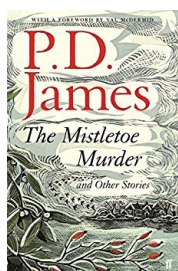
We are grateful for the generosity of our donors which allows us to generate income for many library programs and needs. We are expecting our next sale to be the third Thursday and Saturday of January: the 19th and the 21st.

Kathryn St. John
VP Outdoor Sales

Join Adult Book Clubs and a Party!

Genre Hopping Book Club (Adults)

The Genre Hopping Book Club meets the **3rd Wednesday of each month: December 21, January 18, February 15 and March 22, 5:30 - 6:30 pm.** Please join us for a special **Book Club Holiday Party** at 5 pm on December 21.



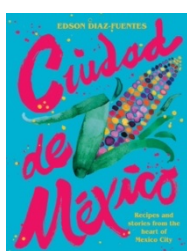
December 21- *The Mistletoe Murder: and Other Stories* by PD James

January 18 - *Sisters in Resistance* by Tilar J. Mazzeo

February 15 and March 22 TBA.

Adult Cookbook Book Club

The Cookbook Book Club will be meeting the **Third Monday of each month: December 19, January 16 (cancelled), February 27 (note special date) and March 20 at 11 am**



September - *Smitten Kitchen Every Day : triumphant and unfussy new favorites* by Deb Perelman

February - *Ciudad de Mexico* by Edson Diaz-Fuentes

March – TBD

Death and Donuts Book Club First Monday of each month: **January 2 (cancelled), February 6 and March 6 at 10:30am** Read any murder mystery you like and join us to share your thoughts. Donuts and coffee will be provided.

Wired Wednesdays 11 am – 12 noon

Sign up for a 20-minute session for one-on-one tech help. Any and all questions are welcomed. Please register ahead of time to ensure we assign the correct staff member to assist you.

BOOK CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY AND CRAFTING
Wednesday, December 21st
5:00-5:30 pm
Before Book Club meeting

LOS ALAMITOS - ROSSMOOR LIBRARY
12700 Montecito Rd
Seal Beach, CA 90740
562-430-1048

Monday - Thursday: 10am-7pm
Saturday: 9am-5pm
Friday & Sunday: Closed

Members from all book clubs are welcome to join us for a fun time reflecting on our book clubs over the last year while enjoying refreshments and making a take-home ornament craft with miniature copies of the books we have read this year.

If you have any questions or want to join the email list, contact us at:
ocpliar@occr.ocgov.com

Public Libraries
@OCPublicLibraries @ocpublib OCP.org

ADULT TAKE AND MAKE CRAFTS

Stay Crafty- Adult take and make crafts, available beginning of each month, while supplies last

December - Metal Hoop Holiday Wreath

January – DIY Magnets

February – Decoupage Clay Pots

March – TBD

Friends of the Library Board Members

President – Del Clark

1st VP Programs – Donna Artukovic

2nd VP Membership – Sharon Westafer

3rd VP Outdoor Sales – Kathryn St.John

4th VP Indoor Sales – Mary Holzgang

Secretary – Susan Alperin

Treasurer – Ann Poissot

Assistant Treasurer – Becky Allie

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Director: Hospitality – Jane Boylan

Director: E-blasts/Children's Books –

Elise Story

Directors at Large –

Michael Coover

Sandy Lamoureux

Pat McMaster

Becky Sarkisian

Student Representatives –

Dimitri June

Joelle Kaiser

Newsletter – Deb Lelchuk

Website – Donald Yancy

Facebook – Joelle Kaiser

Gmail Account Manager – Becky Allie

Want to know where to find
the Friends of the Los
Alamitos - Rossmoor Library?

Email:

friendsoflarlibrary@gmail.com

Phone: (562) 430-1048

Website:

www.friendsoflarlibrary.com

And click here to find
us on Facebook



From the Pages of the Bookstore

December and the end of the year. If you need a last-minute stocking stuffer, a special Christmas book, a game or puzzle or even a Holiday card the Bookstore is the place to come to visit. Our bookstore elves are waiting to help you. We even have gift certificates that fit into stockings or cards. We are also collecting new, unwrapped toys for needy families within our community as part of the Los Alamitos Youth Center effort to make this holiday season bright for all.



So from all of us at the bookstore a grateful thanks for all your support. See you next year!!!

Mary Holzgang, Bookstore Manager



GET READY STAY READY®

The University of South Carolina Information & Communications Department, together with Penguin Random House and EBSCO Information Services recently presented a webinar, *Reading is a Right: What Parents Need to Know about Book Bans and Pushing Back*. You can watch the webinar [here](#).

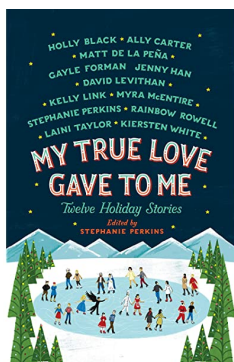
USCIC has also put together a toolkit to Get Ready, Stay Ready. [The Get Ready, Stay Ready: Community Action Toolkit](#) is an effort by a group of parents and librarians who believe that the power is in community, in togetherness, in a collective outcry and a collective pushback against those who want to erase our stories, our history, our existence. Here you will find curated resources including scripts for public speaking and writing, fantastic video presentations, training materials equipping you to learn more about (and fight back) censorship's impact on education and society, tools for civic engagement, and a network of organizations across the country that are determined to preserve your child's right to a high-quality education through intellectual freedom.

Why is Your Voice, Your Actions, Your Involvement Needed? Read "[Playing Catch-Up to the Censors, the Fight for the Freedom to Read Needs a Grassroots Revolution](#)" by Kara Yorio, for a clear explanation on why your effort is needed more than ever! The toolkit will help you become a powerful advocate for your child. *Get Ready, Stay Ready* is an on-going effort and we invite you to recommend resources for inclusion and sharing. Please check back often, and share widely. We are the majority.

Teens Can Find a Place at the Los Alamitos – Rossmoor Library

Teen Advisory Group –will celebrate *Jolabokafloð*, an Icelandic tradition of gifting books around the holiday season on Wednesday, **December 14 at 5 pm**. Lead by the Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Teen Advisory Group, all are welcome to learn more about this Icelandic tradition by bringing in your personal books that you would like to exchange for some new reads. Hot cocoa and snacks will be provided as you find a new read to take home.

Teen Book Club For ages 13-18 meets **Wednesday, December 28 at 5 pm**; January & February dates/themes TBD



December 28 – join us as we discuss *My True Love Gave to Me* edited by Stephanie Perkins. Feel free to read a different winter story for discussion, recommendations found next to the Teen Chalkboard.

January and February programs will include Tote Bag Decorating, Will It Waffle?, Pins, and more. Contact savannah.feiner@occr.ocgov.com with any interest and/or questions!

Bark! Read to a Dog is Back at Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library

Wednesdays, December 21, January 18, and February 15 at 2 pm

When reading to themselves, children tend to skip the words they do not know. When reading out loud, they need to speak each word. Reading to a friendly, nonjudgmental dog takes away the anxiety and makes reading fun! www.barkdogs.org



Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library Continues Storytime



KINDERGARTEN READINESS STORYTIME Fun activity to follow

Continues Tuesdays 10:30 - 11:30 am (no storytime Dec. 20, Dec. 27 or Jan. 3)

Our Kindergarten Readiness Storytime aims to support families in preparing kids for school using books, songs, movements, rhymes and of course... fun! Join Miss Katie each week, and get your kids on the path to success!

BABY AND TODDLER STORYTIME Sensory play to follow

Continues Thursdays 10:30 - 11:30 am (no storytime Dec. 15, Dec. 22 or Jan. 5)

Our youngest patrons, birth to 3 years, and caregivers can join Miss Savannah for some storytime fun. Books will be read with songs, rhymes, and activities to get started on the path to Early Literacy!

Find Kid Fun and Learning at LAR Library

Lego Club Saturdays 2 pm

Children of all ages can have fun with our Lego blocks!

Discovery Club Thursday, January 12 at 4 pm

Open to children ages 5-10 for fun with STEAM activities Sign-ups begin Monday, January 9.

Thank You for Supporting Friends of the Library

You may have heard that the library and bookstore will be closing sometime next year for remodeling, which means no income from book sales during that time. Librarians use revenue from memberships and book sales to purchase supplies for the library and fund many programs the library presents throughout the year. Also, The Friends of the Library awards scholarships to local high school students with money from book sales.

With the holidays approaching, shopping for that person who has everything can be difficult. Why not give them a membership to Friends of the Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library? No need to be concerned about whether your gift will arrive in time for the holidays! Who needs another pair of pajamas or socks? Your gift might encourage someone to check out the library and bookstore. Looking for year-end tax-deductible contributions? Your membership and donations to the Friends are tax deductible and are very much appreciated. Drop your membership renewal or donation by the library or mail it to the library at 12700 Montecito Road, Seal Beach CA 90740. Attention FOL We look forward to hearing from you.



Wishing you and your family Healthy, Happy Holidays.

Sharon Westafer, Membership Chair

Membership Application

- Individual \$20 Family \$25 Patron \$50 Business \$200 Life \$250
 Donation _____ New Member Renewal

Please Print:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Make checks payable to Friends of LAR Library. You can also join or renew on-line at <https://friendsofalarlibrary.com/membership> and pay through PayPal. Our email is friendsofalarlibrary@gmail.com. All membership donations are tax deductible.

You might also like to volunteer with the Friends. You'll make new friends and have a great time. Who can resist working around books?

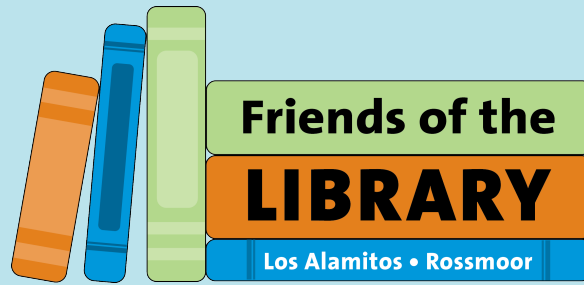
I would like to volunteer in the following:

- Bookstore Outside sales Event support Board member Publicity
 I'm not sure, please contact me



Do your shopping and benefit the Friends of the Library.

Every time you shop on [AmazonSmile*](#) with Friends of the Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Public Library listed as your charity, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of all your eligible purchases to support our programs. [Learn more here.](#)



Let's close the book on this year and renew your commitment to our local library.

The Friends of Los Alamitos-Rossmoor Library would like to thank you for your generous past donations.

We are asking you again to help fill the financial gaps created by the challenges over the last few years.

The funds from your donations supplement library resources and support year-round children and adult programs including summer & holiday reading activities, scholarships, crafts, story times and more.

Please help us by making a tax-deductible year-end gift to The Friends of the LAR Library.

www.friendsoflarlibrary.com

12700 Montecito Road Los Alamitos, California 90740

12700 Montecito Road
Seal Beach, CA 90740



Outdoor Sales

**Thursday Jan. 19 and
Saturday Jan. 21**

**Thursday March 16 and
Saturday March 18**

9 am to 4 pm

**\$3 BAG SALE IN PAPERBACK HAVEN
Saturday at 1 pm**

Join us for DIY VALENTINES –

Thursday, February 9 at 4
pm.

Families can drop-in to
create Valentines for their
friends and others!

