Dear Loyal Members,

Happy New Year!! May 2024 be filled with joy, good health and always a good book to read.

This time of year I’m always reminded of the word INSPIRE. Winter time and the new year has always meant a time to slow down, settle in and ponder what you find inspiring. One thing I aspire to be is a better human being. Look to others in your everyday lives whose simple acts of kindness and thoughtfulness fill you with joy and inspire you to do better. I encounter this every Friday when I’m at Donald Dungan library volunteering at the Friends’ Bookstore. I see librarians treating people of all ages and backgrounds with kindness and respect, patrons taking time to collect and deliver book donations for the used bookstore or stopping to say hello and recommending the next great read.

It just takes a moment to slow down, quiet your mind and take a deep breath to discover there are inspiring moments close by. In a world that can seem harsh and cold, this simple act of noticing what is going on around you will lead to you noticing inspiring acts of kindness and humanity.

Kind Regards,
Cheryl Fletcher

Please welcome our new Publicity Manager! Ruth Hargiss has agreed to be our new Publicity Manager and will help ensure that publicity is done for all of our events—including the ever important book sales.

And if you are interested in a more active role with the Friends, please let us know. We always need help and support!
MEET THE AUTHORS AND JOIN US FOR AN ENGAGING DISCUSSION

Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries have a treat for you in February!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 24th at 3:00pm** in the Adams Room of the Donald Dungan Library. Two fabulous authors will join us to talk about *Vulnerability in Writing Memoir*. Hannah Sward is the critically-acclaimed, award-winning author of *Strip: A Memoir*. Christine Amoroso is an esteemed blogger and the author of the upcoming memoir *Bare Naked in Public*. Arvida Book Co. will have *Strip: A Memoir* available for sale, and *Bare Naked in Public* available for pre-order. The event will be free and open to the public, so invite your reader friends for an engaging discussion with our guest authors.

(FOCML will be holding a very short 15-minute general meeting at the start of the event.)
Costa Mesa Libraries Are Here To Serve You!

See the QR Code for the Calendar

Sarita Dangond, Branch Manager
Donald Dungan Library
1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 • 949/646-8845

Vivian Strabala, Branch Manager
Mesa Verde Library
2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714/546-5274

Hours: Mon – Thurs 10am – 7pm and Fri - Sun 9am – 5pm

OC Public Libraries [www.ocpl.org](http://www.ocpl.org)

Costa Mesa Public Libraries

Costa Mesa Libraries, part of OCPL, are community hubs, connecting people to essential services and resources and building communities of lifelong learners.

OCPL helps our communities learn, explore, connect and have fun! Our programs explore arts, culture, health, civics, science, history and technology. Career and business resources assist job seekers and small businesses. Online, library patrons access databases, research materials, stream videos, listen to ebooks and receive reference services and homework help via chat.

Systemwide programs:

**KINDERGARTEN READINESS** OC Public Libraries has compiled resources and designed programs to support our families in getting ready for school.

**DISCOVER & GO** Explore Orange County museums and attractions through this exciting partnership between OC Public Libraries and local cultural institutions.

**PARK PASSES** OC Public Libraries is partnering with California State Parks and the California State Library to offer free State Parks vehicle-day use passes, available for circulation at all branches of public libraries in California.

Please visit your branch in person or online at [www.ocpl.org/events](http://www.ocpl.org/events) for current programming information, including storytimes, author events, book clubs, and fun events for children, teens, and adults!
Dear Friends,

I am happy that the winter season is here. It seems the holidays just flew by.

The friends will continue our membership perks into the next year. All members who have joined or renewed for 2023/2024 will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a $25.00 gift card to a local business, a friend’s book bag or a $5.00 bookstore coupon. These drawings will be held 4 times a year.

Here are the winners for our first drawing of the 2024 year.

Minh Nguyen>>$25.00 Gift Card to Hole Smokes BBQ
Katie Lewis>> Friends Book bag
Penelope Stanley>> $5.00 bookstore coupon

The Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries invite you to join or renew your membership if you haven’t already done so. Become a Friend now and your membership will not expire until December 31, 2024. We have provided a membership form in the newsletter or you may join on our website. Your membership expiration date is printed on your newsletter address label. For our members who receive the Binding by email please contact us for your expiration date.

Be sure and stop by one or both of our great bookstores for some great bargains on books. We hope that you are able to join us at our next book sale event.

We appreciate your continuing support very much and hope to hear from you soon.

Cheryl and Maurice Dollison
V.P., Membership

Special Thanks to Our Patrons!

Karen & Joe Barloon
Darlene Griffin
Julie Lawson & Family
Ursula G. Oien
Mike & Sandi Scheafer
Judy Wilcox
Chloe & Edward Conti
Cheiko Ishiyam
Ellida Maki
Tina Reinemann & Denise Palaferri
Nora Sharpe
Bonnie Winslow
Megan Delaney
Deborah & Terry Koken
Susan & Michael McGuire
Terry Ratfield
Irene Engard
Lane & Linda Koluvik
Miroaki Nakamura
Barbara & Dan Rycroft
Elizabeth White
Nancy Ypma
Our Very Special Friends

Our Life Members

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Susie & Harlan Andersen  Janette Anderson  Laura Anderson & Ted Schulman
Lisa & Joe Banning  Toby & Peter Baran  Kathy & Jess Bequette  Carolyn Bjork
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Dolores N. Nevins  Minh Nguyen  Thuc X. Nguyen  Emily Nytschyk
Cheryl & Bob Ooten  Sue Paskerian  Elizabeth V. Pattison  Roberta & Avi Peri
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Barbara & Dan Rycroft  Tina & Ken Ryder  Terry Sanders  Candi & Tony Sary
Arlene Schafer  Sandi & Mike Schaefer  Belinda Schober  Laurie Schoner
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Barbara Steck  Trinh Al & R. Tasedan  Barbara Thibault  Carolyn Thomas
Pauline Thomas  Janet Thompson  Aniz Uhler  Sam & Cindee Watson
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Alison & Andrew Wright  Van O. Wright  Donna Yelich  Arlene Young
Kathie & Ray Young

Our Life Members
Are you concerned about all the talk about book bans here in our County? In October of last year, here is the reporting from Voice of OC (https://voiceofoc.org/2023/10/what-does-californias-new-anti-book-ban-law-mean-for-orange-county/)

“...Huntington Beach isn’t the only place where people have raised concerns about book bans in OC.

Earlier this year, trustees in the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School Board raised concerns about some of the language used towards women in an Iranian revolution book that was piloted with 11th grade students. Some worried the book itself – Persepolis: The Story of Childhood – would be banned.

In the end, trustees narrowly voted to revise their book selection policy to require trustees to vote on books before they get tested with students and approve the book. The decision left some parents and students worried that the revised policy would open the door to book bans and strip the voice of educators in deciding curriculum material.

If you are interested in a presentation on this for any group you are involved with, the League of Women Voters has a presentation. You can contact them at:

SpeakersBureau@lwvorangecoast.org
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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<tr>
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<td>The Binding newsletter, e-mail notification of special events and activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
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<td>Same as above, PLUS Friends tote bag &amp; acknowledgement in each issue of The Binding newsletter and our website.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>Same as above, PLUS placement on Life Membership rolls in our libraries and in each issue of The Binding newsletter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business/Organization</td>
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<td>Same as Patron, PLUS business card size advertisement in each issue of newsletter and a framed sponsorship certificate suitable for framing.</td>
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<td>Benefactor</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Same as Patron, PLUS recognition at our book used stores.</td>
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<td>Life Business</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Same as Business/Organization for Life.</td>
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Name/Contact:

Street: City, State, Zip:

Phone: Business Name:

Email: Website:

How would you like to receive The Binding? Circle one: Email or Postal Mail

Membership, Circle one: New or Renewing

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries. Mail check & Membership Application to address listed under Contact Information, Attention Membership.

Thank you for your membership and help.
Want to help more?
Please volunteer a little of your time. We Train!
If you are interested in volunteering,
please circle areas of interest below or specify an interest,
we will give you a call.

Bookstore, Public Relations, Marketing... Serve on a Committee, Membership, Book Sale Day... Serve on Friends' Board, Other...
“The Binding” is published four times each year—Winter (January), Spring (April), Summer (July), Fall (October). The Binding is for the staff, volunteers, and members of the Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries.

Current Board Members of the Friends:
President—Cheryl Fletcher
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V.P. Fundraising—Elena Perez
V.P. Programs—Candi Sary
Secretary—Open
Treasurer—Branka Hubbard

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Articles for submission should be written in Microsoft Word and emailed to scampbell0128@gmail.com with “Newsletter Submission” in the subject line. Photos are encouraged. Submission does not guarantee publication.