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Special Notice

Beginning with our Fall Issue we will be doing an electronic version of the newsletter only. You can receive it in your email or by accessing it through our web site.

If you have been receiving a printed copy, we do hope that this will not be a great inconvenience to you, but with increased pricing and the difficulties associated with the printed version we have decided it is time for us to go electronic! So we are joining the 21st Century!

If this is a huge problem for you we can arrange to have one of our Board members print you a copy. Please stop by one of the bookstores and ask or send us an email to friendscmlibraries@att.net.

Thank you for your understanding.

The President's Message—Cheryl Fletcher

The world's your oyster when you're engaged with your local library. Consider a DIY project using items from the Library of Things, expand your mind through new genres, or explore the great outdoors by checking out a California State Park Pass. Summer is all about exploration. Let the library be your guide!

Summertime is bringing some changes to Mesa Verde Library and Friends' MV Bookstore. Our dynamic and creative lead librarian Vivian Strabala has retired from MV Library, and we were so fortunate to have her guide the library to great heights. The library will have a familiar face returning so please stop in and welcome back Tracy Li, who will replace Vivian Strabala as Head Librarian at Mesa Verde Library.

FOCML has been hard at work organizing a beautification project for the Mesa Verde Friends' Bookstore. Maurice Dollison arranged for Danny Cruz at Cali Construction to replace the very worn ramp & Michele Jett has been busy having the bookstore repainted.

May your summer be full of adventure and golden memories.

Best Regards,

Cheryl

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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
949/646-8845

Tracy Li, Branch Manager
Mesa Verde Library
2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa
714/546-5274

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

OC Public Libraries (OCPL)
A Library for Everyone

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. As part of the Library of Things collection, some OCPL branches have a Seed Library Visit Donald Dungan and grow your own garden!

Please visit your branch in person or online at www.ocpl.org/events for current programming information, including storytimes, author events, book clubs, and fun events for children, teens, and adults!



See the QR Code above for the Calendar

Your Membership Matters

Dear Friends,

The Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries invite you to join or renew your membership if you haven't already done so. Our membership is a very important part of supporting our libraries.

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 this last postal newsletter. For our members who receive the Binding by email please contact us for your expiration date

The Friends are on our third Membership perks contest this year.

All members who have joined or renewed for 2025 or have a Lifetime Membership 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 third drawing for 2025.

Rebeca Maehara>>\$25.00 gift card to Target

Alicia Ruvalcaba>> Friend's book bag

Michael Godfrey>>\$5.00 bookstore coupon

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 2025 Patrons!

Karen & Joe Barloon Megan Delaney Doreen Dzaman Irene Engard Shannon Gibson Darlene Griffin Ruth Hargiss Cheiko Ishiyama Debbie and Raul Jara	Deborah and Terry Koken Lane and Linda Koluvek Julie Lawson and Family Deborah Lucas Ellida Maki Patricia & Russell McFarland Susan & Michael McGuire Miroaki Nakamura Joni B. Nichols	Ursula G. Oien Tina Reinemann & Denise Palaferri Terry Ratfield Barbara and Dan Rycroft Nora Sharpe Bert Smith Elizabeth White Ethelyn A. Wilson Bonnie Winslow
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Our Very Special Friends

Our Life Members

Judy & Norman Ablett	John D. Adams, Jr.	Susan & Richio Aikawa	Richard Alexander
Susie & Harlan Andersen	Janette Anderson	Laura Anderson & Ted Schulman	
Lisa & Joe Banning	Toby & Peter Baran	Kathy & Jess Bequette	Carolyn Bjork
Darcy & Ross Bolton	Millie & Myron Bonca	Dale Braun	Wendy Bryan
A.A & Audrey Burnand	Chris Cameron & Bill Butler	Steph Campbell	LuAnn & Rick Campo
Ken Cave	Victoria Chau	Susanna Clemans	Edward & Chloe Conti
Jon & Katie Crawford	Tracey & Hugh Daschbach	Victoria Davis	Marian & Pete Dickey
Cheryl & Maurice Dollison	Joan M. Donahue	Jane & Randy Embrey	Susan Baer Epstein
Patricia Evans	Lori Ann Farrell	Lois & James Fisher	K. & J. Fitzpatrick
Cheryl & Jonathan Fletcher	Marilyn M. Fry	Mae Gale	Joanne C. Gant
Sydney & Larry Gielow	Thomas & Judith Gielow	Mary Ellen Goddard	Tamar & Dan Goldmann
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R & Branka Hubbard	Ruby Hunt	Diana Jason	Diane Richardson Johnson
Hans Kammeyer	Debby & Terry Koken	Sue & Kurth Krause	Janet Krochman
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Thuc X. Nguyen	Emily Nytschyk	Cheryl & Bob Ooten	Sue Paskerian
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M.& D. Pielenpol	Cynthia Reynolds	Roz Mattson Riessen	Lene & Jim Righeimer
John D. Rittenhouse	Carolyn Russell	Dianne Louise Russell	T. & R. Rutledge
Barbara & Dan Rycroft	Tina & Ken Ryder	Terry Sanders	Candi & Tony Sary
Arlene Schafer	Sandi & Mike Scheafer	Belinda Schober	Laurie Schoner
In Memory of Judy Shane	Marilyn & Terry Shaw	Willa Sigler	Gene Stanley
Dean & Donna Stapleton	Barbara Steck	Trinh Al & R. Tasedan	Barbara Thibault
Carolyn Thomas	Pauline Thomas	Janet Thompson	Aniz Uhler
Sam & Cindee Watson	Patricia Weed	Laurie & Larry Weichman	Kathleen West
Joyce Woerner	Alison & Andrew Wright	Van O. Wright	Donna Yelich
Arlene Young	Kathie & Ray Young		

Libraries in Finland

“Nordic countries like Finland continue to benefit from universally available and high-quality health, education and social support systems. Inequality of wellbeing is also low,” said Ilana Ron-Levey, managing director at Gallup.

It's probably not a coincidence that Finland also highly values their public libraries and invests in them accordingly.

The country spends approximately €60 per capita on its public library system each year, which is about four times as much as the UK and six times as much as Germany and **nearly 40% more than the United States**. For most Finns, libraries are like sanctuaries where people can access information independently while still feeling part of a community.

Friends of the Library—Business Members



The Censorship Acceleration – from Every Library Institute

Censorship in libraries is not slowing down or hitting a plateau. In "The Censorship Acceleration", author and researcher Marianne Wood Forrest provides an in-depth analysis of how coordinated political, ideological, and religious forces have transformed the censorship landscape in America since 2020. Drawing on original research, expert analysis, and the latest data, this report highlights how book bans have evolved from isolated parental concerns into a comprehensive political strategy aimed at undermining public education, silencing marginalized voices, and promoting a national agenda of school privatization.

The report examines the rise of well-funded "parental rights" groups, such as Moms for Liberty, and the use of censorship as a tactic in the broader culture war. It charts the shifting strategies, language, and power dynamics associated with this new wave of book bans. Additionally, it discusses the concerning impact of Project 2025 policies on federal education and library funding, emphasizing that the struggle for intellectual freedom is now closely linked to the fight for democracy itself.

Key Takeaways in the Report:

- Book bans are increasingly motivated by powerful political and religious groups rather than by local parental concerns.
- Censorship campaigns are closely connected to school privatization and efforts against diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).
- Coordinated campaigns are nationalizing what were previously local conflicts within school boards.
- Resistance is growing, particularly from student-led movements and states passing right-to-read legislation.
- The future of libraries, education, and civil liberties is at a critical juncture and requires urgent advocacy.

The Censorship Acceleration Report reframes the narrative surrounding book bans by linking the culture war to the privatization of public education and the erosion of essential democratic institutions. Whether you are a librarian, educator, journalist, policymaker, or concerned these escalating threats should concern us all.

Don't Forget About Summer Reading 2025!

This summer, OC Public Libraries is offering a reading challenge, in-branch programming, grab & go craft kits, author events, reading lists and at select branch locations, Lunch at the Library. Participate in our weekly scavenger hunts and activities, return each week for something new to find!



Slice of Literary Orange

Don't forget about A Slice of Literary Orange. Yes, it has changed from what it used to be. Now it's a series of speakers throughout the year at various venues across the County. It's no cost for attendees and they all take place at literary locations made possible with the support of community partners.

Go to <https://ocpl.org/page/slice-literary-orange> for all the upcoming authors – one of your favorites may be here in Orange County!





Supporting Excellence in
Library Services Since 1960

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Level Circle One	Amount	Benefit Description
Individual	\$15/year	<i>The Binding</i> newsletter, e-mail notification of special events and activities.
Family	\$20/year	Same as above.
Patron	\$50/year	Same as above, PLUS Friends tote bag & acknowledgement in each issue of <i>The Binding</i> newsletter and our website.
Life	\$200	Same as above, PLUS placement on Life Membership rolls in our libraries and in each issue of <i>The Binding</i> newsletter.
Business/ Organization	\$100/ year	Same as Patron, PLUS business card size advertisement in each issue of newsletter and a framed sponsorship certificate suitable for framing.
Benefactor	\$500	Same as Patron, PLUS recognition at our book used stores.
Life Business	\$1,000	Same as Business/Organization for Life.

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 your interested in volunteering,

please circle areas of interest below or specify an interest,
we will give you a call.

• Bookstore Public Relations	Serve on a Committee Membership	• Serve on Friends' Board
• Marketing	Book Sale Day	• Other _____

The Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

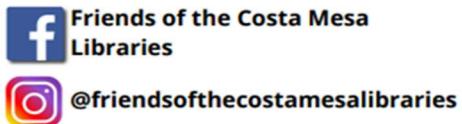
THE BINDING

The Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries
2969 Mesa Verde Drive East
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

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E-mail: friendscmlibraries@att.net
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“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
V.P. Membership—Cheryl & Maurice Dollison
V.P. Programs—Candi Sary
Secretary—Lauren Macdonald
Treasurer—Branka Hubbard
The Binding Editor—Steph Campbell

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.



PLEASE NOTE: The expiration date of your membership is now located above your name on the mailing label (shown above). If your membership has expired, please complete the enclosed **Membership Application** and mail it to our address or contact

[Friendscmlibraries@att.net](mailto:friendscmlibraries@att.net)

