

BOOKMARK

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

SPRING 2016



NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

2 Wednesday, April 19, 1995 Newport Beach/Costa Mesa Daily Pilot

LOCALS ONLY

CITY EDITOR IRS YOKOI, 574-4233

Essay winners show fondness for library

Editor's note: The following are In a few days I was on a roll! I

My eyes were glued to the TV set as I watched Nickelodeon. I wasn't thinking about anything except Elmer Fudd. My dad was worried. He knew TV would scramble my brains and turn it into mush. I was in second grade (last year) and I was an average student. So my dad took me to the library. I thought my dad would never make me stop watching Nickelodeon. I LOVE NICKELODEON!!! I was wrong. In a few days I was on a roll! I started reading sixth grade books like "The Hobbit" and "Maniac Magee." All I want to tell you is that the library really got me into books.

MIKAYEL CURRIM
Andersen School
3rd Grade



Mikayel Currim



ALISSA ZOELLE
Lincoln School
4th Grade

starting at me mommy?"

selections: selections dictated by the associations called up by the last book chosen or examined. Most I made this from the

Planting Seeds at the Library

At a recent networking event, a lovely woman named Saboochi Currim approached me to comment on the cover story in the last issue of *The Bookmark*, about Nassim Alisobhani and Justin Yanuck falling in love at the library. Saboochi told me excitedly, "I emailed the story to many of my friends who have single kids in their 20s and are having a difficult time meeting future mates. The moral of the story is go hang out at the library! You will improve your mind and meet Miss or Mister Right!" We couldn't agree more.

Saboochi went on to tell me that the *Daily Pilot* featured a story in April 1995 about the new Newport Beach Central Library. Her son, Mikayel Currim, was nine years old and in third grade at that time. "Mik" entered an essay in a competition held by the *Daily Pilot* that focused on the new library. The paper did a full page story on the competition and ran photos of the young writers receiving their awards at the library. Fortunately Mik's proud mom saved the article and we've included it here more than 20 years later.

Mik continued on his educational path to Corona del Mar High School and then to Stanford for his undergraduate degree. He is currently completing medical school at Tulane University. Saboochi beamed when she shared with me her son's love for the library and the seeds it planted for his eventual dream to go to medical school.

I am inspired by stories like this as they illustrate what an indelible mark the library experience leaves on those who spend time here. Curiosity can be sated here without any boundaries. In this season of renewal and possibility, who or what will you discover at the library?

We love to hear stories like this from our Library Foundation members. We thank you for sharing and are so grateful this spring for your support of the Newport Beach Public Library system.

Tracy Keys
Executive Director

Cover image: Aria Wang, age 2, enjoying the library

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Welcome Susan Groux to our staff!

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of Susan Groux, who joined our team as Director of Programs on March 21st. With the growth of the Library Foundation in terms of our annual budget and expanded programming, the time has come to expand our staff. Susan has served as a Library Assistant for the past two years at the Newport Beach Public Library. "The Newport Beach Public Library has been my home-away-from home since I was five years old. It is a dream come true to be able to work for the organization that helps to make the library the wonderful place that it is." Welcome, Susan!

Checking Out Tech

Have you ever wanted to test out a Go-Pro video camera but didn't necessarily want to purchase one? We are excited to share that soon you will be able to check one out thanks to funding from the Library Foundation. The following will be added to the growing list of resources available in the Media Lab at the Central Library:

- GoPro HERO 4
- USB-enabled turntables
- Wolverine 7-in-1 film/slide converters
- Canon Powershot cameras
- Waterproof camcorder

For more information about the Media Lab, phone 949.717.3803.



Bunny Logo Contest Winner Announced!

We are "hoppy" to announce that Katie Gerlt, 17, of Corona del Mar High School won our first-ever Bunnies & Books for Kids Festival logo contest. The logo pictured here will be used to promote the 3rd Annual Bunnies & Books for Kids Festival on May 14th. The judges, comprised of the Making Memories for Children Program committee, unaware of any contestants' names, were hard-pressed to choose a winner in that many worthy entries were submitted from talented young people in our community.



Katie's artist statement: This original art was inspired by our pet rabbit, Scout, who was found abandoned on a street in Newport Beach a year ago. Scout is a semi-dwarf white rabbit

with black spots who loves to zip around our living room, jump for joy, and explore and sniff everything — especially books from the Newport Beach Public Library!

the Witte LECTURES

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The Season Highlights

This season's lecture series was a smashing success. And, we are excited to announce a generous lead gift for 2017 from the William and Sue Gross Family Foundation. Thank you!



Photos L to R 1. Janet Hadley; Elsa-Maj Taskinen with Jessica Fellowes 2. Jessica Fellowes 3. Carolyn Ward with Jessica Fellowes 4. Roz Chast 5. Oz & Norma Torres 6. Gordon McAlpine, Malin & Chris Fletcher 7. Cathy Kroopf, Janet Hadley 8. Tracy Keys, Maziar Bahari, Afsaneh Alisobhani 9. Kathy Abel, Greg MacGillivray, Keiko Sakamoto Witte 10. Sophia & Olivia Witte 11. Karly Matson, Chris Hathaway 12. Sammy & Jene Witte 13. Chris & Marianne Haukenes 14. Gloria Sullivan, John Rallis, Mary Lynn Bergman-Rallis 15. Amanda Ong, Sherman Alexie, Tess Hezlep, Alyssa & Will Anderson



Save the Date

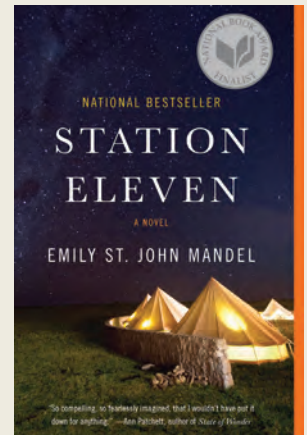
Emily St. John Mandel

Wednesday, November 9 @ 7:00pm

Station Eleven

About Library Live!

Library Live strives to bring first-rate authors to our book-loving, literary community. We endeavor to offer as many programs as possible free of charge; often we are required to cover honorarium and travel costs, so some programs are ticketed. Library Foundation members always receive a \$5 discount as a benefit of membership. We are grateful to Samuel and Tammy Tang for their support. Sponsorship opportunities are available; if you love our programs and are able to contribute at least \$2,500, your investment will enable us to continue bringing stellar authors to the library. If you want to help, phone 949.717.3890 or email: tkeys@newportbeachca.gov.



© Dese'Rae L. Stage

Library Live Season Highlights



Photos L to R

1. Daniel James Brown with Barbara Vorwerck
2. Shawn Cowles & Doug West
3. Daniel James Brown with Linda & Dan Schmenk
4. Jeffery Deaver with guest
5. Coffee by our sponsor Nespresso
6. Cathy Voreyer, Felix Yan, Nancy Dahlfors
7. Jeffery Deaver fan!
8. Susan Groux with Les Standiford



Alex, Aria and Connie Wang

Connie Wang

Connie Wang is a working mother, a patron of the Newport Beach Public Library, and an avid supporter of the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation. She is the founder of Guild, a boutique management company that is developing a new kind of property—a combined hotel and artist space. Before founding Guild, Connie directed all operations at Andaz 5th Avenue—Hyatt's flagship boutique in Midtown Manhattan.

When she and her husband Alex moved to Newport Beach from New York more than a year ago, she sought out ways to meet more people in the community. Since then, the library has been a way for her to meet many people, including other mothers from the area.

Connie's first introduction to the library came when she and her then one-year-old daughter Aria met a friend there for a playdate. Ever since she has been bringing Aria to the library twice a week to play and socialize with other children of various ages and for the children's Storytime program. Connie says that the

play space is a large, always-active part of the library, and she can almost always find another toddler Aria's age for her to play with. When Aria's nanny comes along, Connie heads upstairs to the café and works while Aria plays.

Now, Aria is two-and-a-half years old and has developed an "obsession with books."

Connie believes the library and Storytime program are large contributing factors to that because they have given her a positive exposure. Although Aria has a lot of books at home, Connie says it cannot compare to the access she has at the library.

Why Be a Member?

Connie discovered the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation and the vital role it plays at the library when she visited the Foundation's website to purchase tickets to the Witte Lectures. She had assumed that tax dollars alone supported the library and was unaware that the

Library Foundation was a key funding source for the library's programs, events and other aspects that she enjoyed.

Because the Foundation features various donation levels, almost anyone can find a category that fits his or her income. Although many events and programs are free and can be accessed regardless of membership status, Library Foundation members do receive added benefits such as cool premiums, discounted program tickets as well as the coveted Corona del Mar Plaza discount card.

"Between using the children's play area, attending Storytime twice a week, using the café to work and attending lectures, we are pretty heavy users of the library. It felt natural to contribute to the Library Foundation in order to support the library's resources," Connie said.

"The library is a great space for people in the community to come together. In the café and in the quiet reading spots, you see people of all kinds and of all different ages," Connie said. "There's really no place quite like it in the area."



Aria, age 1, with friend Sophie, 4, at library





Sunday, June 12

Fancy Nancy's Saturday Night Sleepover

2:00–3:30pm



Robin Preiss Glasser, illustrator of the Fancy Nancy picture books, is back—this time in her glammed up sleepover party ensemble, to share the latest adventures of Fancy Nancy. Kids are encouraged to bring their pillows or favorite blanket and doll or stuffed animal.

Note: This is not an actual sleepover!

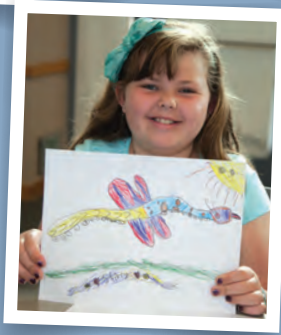
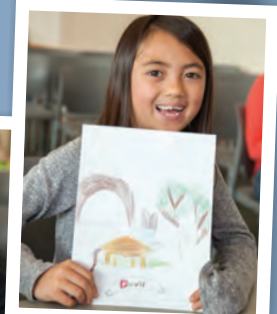
- Free and open to the public.
- Suggested \$10 donation at the door
- No advance reservations. Seating is first-come, first-served
- Book sales courtesy of Whale of a Tale Bookshope, Irvine
- Book signing and refreshments following the program
- One adult must accompany each child

Highlights from

art
in the
Spring
workshop
series

We thank our
generous sponsors:

Diane & Dennis Baker
Terry & Sharon Bridges
Newport Beach
Arts Commission
Tricia Nichols





Mary McCarthy-Platt



Mary McCarthy-Platt and Warren Platt under a Baobab Tree in the Kalahari Desert.

Mary McCarthy-Platt joined the Library Foundation in 2014 and continues to make a huge difference here with her generosity and radiant energy she brings when she visits the library...which is often. Mary graciously shared with us the following about her life, family and passion for Newport Beach.

"I first lived in Newport Beach 48 years ago, on Balboa Island. I was teaching school in Fountain Valley, when most of Huntington Beach was still bean fields. Right after that, I began my business career as a trainee then analyst at Merrill Lynch in Century City. I took accounting and finance classes at UCLA at night. (My B.A. in Education is from the University of Michigan.)

After a long career in corporate development/mergers and acquisitions and financial PR in Los Angeles, I returned to Newport Beach in 1998, to Lido Isle, where I have many dear and close friends. My two sons, Gunther and Gino, live in West Palm Beach and Denver, respectively. Gunther has a consulting business applying digital media techniques in corporate innovation and Gino works for NBC-Universal Sports.

My last hobby/business before I retired to writing, cooking, golf and bridge was Tutta California, a producer and marketer of California Extra Virgin Olive Oil.

My husband, Warren Platt, a partner in Snell & Wilmer, Attorneys at Law, and I live with our two Norwich Terriers, YumYum and Tank, in Cliffhaven overlooking the harbor

and ocean. We do not take the views nor the fabulous Newport Beach weather for granted. We are grateful every day.

1. All-time favorite book?

The Miracle of Mindfulness by Thich Nhat Hanh. I think it tells me what I need to know about how to "be" in this world.

2. What's on your nightstand?

Ben Hogan's Five Lessons; The Lucky Years by David B. Agus, M.D.; and *Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear* by Elizabeth Gilbert.

3. Favorite place to read?

Anywhere and everywhere.

4. Print or e-book?

About 70% e-books and 30% print.

5. Where do you get your news?

Several daily newspapers, cable news channels and my iPhone newsstand as well as Apple News.

6. Your heroes?

My husband, Warren Platt, who is unfailingly kind and wise; my mother, Dorothy McCarthy, who had compassion and love for everyone; my stepfather, George McCarthy, whose generosity and sense of adventure knew no bounds; and Richard Branson, Aung San Suu Kyi, John Updike and Simone de Beauvoir for the courageous and elegant contributions they made and are making to this world.

7. Favorite place in the world?

Chitabe, Botswana. Your feet are on the earth, and through them you feel your connection to our human origins. The animals teach us such respect, as well as

the beauty of being at one with nature. It is profound.

8. Favorite place in Orange County?

Pelican Hill Grill Bar. The views are breathtaking, the food is excellent and the big-screen sports experience is great fun. It reminds us how lucky we are to live here!

9. Your thoughts on the most important offerings of libraries today?

The most important offerings of libraries today, in my opinion, center around their ability to gather communities together—through lectures, programs, lessons and events. To spark curiosity and to ignite inspiration are invaluable.

10. What do you see as the library of the future?

Totally immersive. All media, holographic, personally engaging. Organized with instant access and intuitive progression through a subject, issue, genre or area of interest using all means of knowledge delivery.



YumYum and Tank

CALENDAR

MAY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|--|---|----------|--|--|
| 1  | 2 It's Your Estate Charitable Income & Tax Planning Issues 10:00-11:30am | 3  | 4 | 5 | 6  | 7 |
| 8 | 9 It's Your Estate IRA & Retirement Plan Distributions 10:00-11:30am | 10 | 11 Book Group Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng 9:15-11:00am | 12 | | 14 Bunnies & Books for Kids Festival 10:00am-1:00pm |
| 15 | 16 It's Your Estate The Role of a Trustee & Executor 10:00-11:30am | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 It's Your Estate Case Study & Review 10:00-11:30am <i>Medicine in Our Backyard</i> 7:00-8:30pm | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |  | | | |

JUNE

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|---------|---|---|---|----------|
|  | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5  | 6 | 7 | 8 Book Group <i>The Reader</i> by Bernhard Schlink 9:15-11:00am | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Fancy Nancy's Saturday Night Sleepover 2:00-3:30pm | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30  |  | |

Mission Statement:

The Newport Beach Public Library Foundation funds valuable library resources and programs—engaging the community in cultural and intellectual adventure through the sponsorship of diverse public programs and cutting-edge library enhancements.

We are a membership-driven organization. Fulfilling our mission is possible because of the individuals and corporations below. Thank you! The following represents gifts given and new pledges made from January 1 to February 29, 2016.

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(\$50-99)

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(\$35+ for those 22-39)

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Thomas Scheck
Laurel Tippet

EX LIBRIS

(\$25+ for those 65 & over)

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(\$15 - children membership)

Charlotte Yurko

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Rachel Chasin

IN KIND GIFTS

Tom & Barbara Peckenpaugh
for their gift of artwork by
Tasha Tudor along with first
edition books for the
Children's Library.



Hidden Spaces Winners!

In our last issue of The Bookmark, we had a contest on the back cover to see how well our readers know the Newport Beach Central Library. Congratulations to the following people who know it well!

Beverly Badgley, Newport Beach
Deborah Moriarity, Laguna Woods
Hank Liao, Irvine
B. Vazquez and S. Kunkel
Ava Von Meeteran, Corona del Mar

Each of our winners received a canvas book bag filled with cool Library Foundation premiums (check out the premiums on our website) and a signed book by one of our guest authors.

Answers to the quiz:

1. Chuck Jones artwork in Teen Center
2. Cartoon art in the hallway adjacent to Teen Center
3. Entrance to the Media Center
4. Local history bookcases
5. Storytime sign in the Stahr Children's Area.

Thank you for playing! ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ **FIND THE HIDDEN**

All contents of this issue ©2016 Newport Beach Public Library Foundation



3rd Annual Bunnies & Books for Kids Festival

Saturday, May 14

10:00am–1:00pm

- Bunny-themed storytelling
- Cool kids' activities
- Face painting
- Crafts
- Scavenger hunt
- Free and open to the public

Held at the Newport Beach Central Library and the Civic Green

