

BOOKMARK

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

SUMMER 2014



paws to read:
join us for our summer
reading program
and get smart!



let's paws to read



The Queen of Hearts paused for a photo at the Bunnies & Books for Kids Festival.

"Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read." — Groucho Marx

We are wild about the California Library Association's *Summer Reading Program* theme, *Paws to Read*, as it invites us to pause for reading in our busy lives. Summer vacations hopefully give us time to catch up on those books we've been longing to read. The *Summer Reading Program* provides enrichment, incentives and an enjoyable way to tap into the joy of reading books together as a community.

Books expand our experience in the world. Actor Anna Deavere Smith, who performed at the Central Library this season, opened the evening with "some people say that libraries are dead but we all know that libraries in America are alive and well. So, for me to be here in the company of words is such a delight." Applause!

Reading empowers critical thinking skills. A well-crafted book can enhance empathy and lead to greater understanding of people unlike ourselves, living in places we will never visit, with vastly different points of view. Joyce Carol Oates said that "Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another's skin, another's voice, another's soul."

We often talk now about all the things that libraries have become – community centers, media labs, study spaces – and it remains a time-honored place that acts as an advocate for books by growing, maintaining and lending collections for the public to use. It is still a haven that inspires us to read and share books.

"What a miracle it is that out of these small, flat, rigid squares of paper unfolds world after world after world, worlds that sing to you, comfort and quiet or excite you. Books help us understand who we are and how we are to behave. They show us what community and friendship mean; they show us how to live and die." — Anne Lamott

We thank, as always, our generous members and supporters whose contributions allow the Library to be filled with books, to present speakers like Anna Deavere Smith and programs like *Paws to Read*. We'd love to hear about what you are reading now. Pause and let us know!

Tracy Keys
Executive Director



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cdm branch expansion

The City is in the preliminary stages of planning to rebuild a new Branch Library and Fire Station in Corona del Mar, the goal to upgrade and modernize both at the same time. We'll keep you posted on details as the plans develop. Thanks to our members, the Library Foundation has just committed \$12,000 to fund improvements at both Corona del Mar and Balboa Branches.



yaac

What's a YAAC? YAAC is the Young Adult Advisory Council, of course. Founded in 1994, the YAAC has helped library staff improve the ways the library serves young people and helps teens become participating partners in the goal of providing quality, young adult resources. How do they accomplish this? Over the years YAAC programs have included author visits, scavenger hunts, book giveaways, movie nights and more. If you know a teen interested in participating, please contact Librarian Mona Kobersy at 949.717.3817 or via email at mkobersy@newportbeachca.gov.

welcome dave

We're pleased to announce the appointment of Dave Curtis as the new Library Services Manager. With more than 30 years in library services, Dave brings a wealth of experience to his new position at the Newport Beach Public Library. Most recently, Dave served as the Deputy Library Director for the Carlsbad Public Library. Dave feels strongly that libraries must be proactive in understanding the needs of their communities. "Engaging with users and welcoming their input is certainly key in positioning a library to be a primary resource in families' lives," he says. Dave and his family — three sons, a daughter and a bibliophile wife — are all library users and volunteers.



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spring events

We hope you were able to join us for our series of stellar and well-attended Witte Lectures and Library Live events with celebrated authors including Katherine Boo, Mona Simpson, Frank Bruni, Rick Reilly and Anna Deavere Smith. Many thanks to all those who helped make it happen!



Anna Deavere Smith, Ellen Shockro, Ph.D.



Tom Sutton, Frank Bruni, Marilyn Sutton



Anna Deavere Smith



Christine Chapel, Mona Simpson



Ann Wareham, Artistic Director
of the Laguna Playhouse



An elegant evening



Jene Witte,
Mary Lynn Bergman-Rallis

save the date saturday, october 25 @ 7pm the witte lectures presents jonathan franzen

Please join us for what is sure to be a memorable evening with author **Jonathan Franzen**, award-winning novelist of *The Corrections* and someone *Time Magazine* calls "the Great American Novelist."

Franzen will talk about his most recent book, ***Freedom***, chosen as one of *The New York Times* 10 Best Books of 2010. *The New York Times Book Review* calls *Freedom* "a masterpiece of American fiction" and *The Guardian* calls it "the novel of the century." Tickets go on sale Monday, June 23.



photo: Greg Martin

Tickets: \$50 General Admission / \$45 Library Foundation Members (Book Worm level & above)

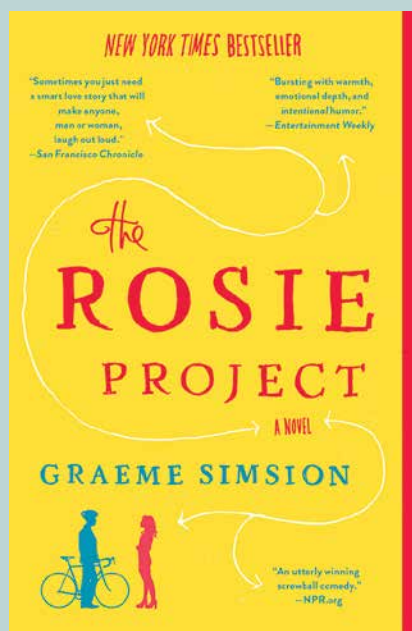
Order online at nbplfoundation.org

Info: events@nbplfoundation.org or 949.548.2411

graeme simsion:

the rosie project

tuesday, june 17 @ 7pm



We are wildly excited to present Australian-born author, screenwriter, playwright and data modeler Graeme Simsion, whose debut novel, *The Rosie Project*, has created an audible buzz in the world of book publishing. An international bestseller, *The Rosie Project* is now being published in 41 countries. Mr. Simsion recently sold the film rights to Sony Pictures and signed on to write the screenplay.

The Rosie Project is an endearing and unconventional romantic comedy about Don Tillman, a brilliant, yet socially challenged professor of genetics who sets out to find the perfect partner, and instead, finds Rosie Jarman. Rosie is quickly disqualified by his scientific criteria but Don is forced to realize that love is not a science.

Readers of *The Rosie Project* will know that Graeme Simsion has a first-class sense of humor. At professional conferences he has given addresses from on top of a ladder, dressed as a duck, and he once engaged a group of spellbound chartered accountants in community singing. Expect the unexpected at this Library Live program. In the meantime, check out his TED Talk.

Some of the buzz:

"Don Tillman helps us believe in possibility, makes us proud to be human beings, and the bonus is this: he keeps us laughing like hell."

~ Matthew Quick, author of *The Silver Linings Playbook*

"*The Rosie Project* is an upbeat, quirky, impertinent gem of a read. As the novel makes its logically irrefutable progression, readers will become enchanted by what may well be the world's first rigorously evidence-based romantic comedy."

~ Chris Cleave, author of *Little Bee* and *Gold*

"With the demands of children and work, it's rare that I find myself so caught up in a novel that I literally cannot put it down—not for food, nor for conversation, nor even for sleep. Charming and delightful, I was so enamored of *The Rosie Project* that I read it in a single, marathon sitting."

~ Ayelet Waldman, author of *Red Hook Road*, *Bad Mother* and *Love and Other Impossible Pursuits*

"I couldn't put this book down. It's one of the most quirky and endearing romances I've ever read. I laughed the whole way through. And now I want to meet Don!"

~ Sophie Kinsella, author of the *Shopaholic* series and *Wedding Night*

details:

- 6:30pm doors open
- 7:00–8:30pm program
- Book sales & signing courtesy of Lido Village Books

- Limited seating
Reservations given priority
Reserve online:
nbplfoundation.org

- No charge to attend
Suggested \$10 donation at the door
- Info: events@nbplfoundation.org
or 949.548.2411



summer reading

Summer is a great time to sneak away with a great book — from vacation reading to beach reading to an afternoon curled up in your favorite chair reading. Because we're always dying to know who is reading what, we asked a few of our favorite bibliophiles what they have planned for summer. Read on for the "what" and the "where" of their summer reading.

Whitney Gomez • Newport Beach
What: *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt and Jason Matthews' spy novel *Red Sparrow*.

Where: I would like to read it on a long plane ride destined for an off-the-beaten-path adventure.

Meredith Stenta • Irvine
What: *The White Queen* and *Cuckoo's Calling*.

Where: I love to read curled up on my sofa when the house is quiet and with our rescue dog, Vinnie, next to me. Otherwise, I read before I go to bed. This summer, I will be reading on the peaceful shores of Keuka Lake in upstate New York while all of the kids are water skiing.

Amelia Hardin, Newport Beach
What: The book at the top of my summer reading stack is *Bring up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel.
Where: You will find me reading at Bolsa Chica State beach while my

husband surfs with our two boys, Joaquin and Theo.

Mona Kobersy, Newport Beach
What: Usually I am a strict nonfiction reader with my absolute favorite being biographies and memoirs, so I am waiting for the new Diane Keaton memoir, *Let's Just Say It Wasn't Pretty*. This summer I'll be in the midst of exciting wedding planning so all the books I've checked out are wedding guides!

Where: I love to read so I read anywhere and everywhere — at the beach, in my bed, on my lunch break, every chance I get!

Erik Gunderson, Laguna Beach
What: Something light and not too serious like *There Goes Gravity: A Life in Rock and Roll* by Lisa Robinson, in which she recounts her time on the road with and/or interviewing rock and roll greats like The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, and U2.

Where: My sofa. But really, summer is a great time to enjoy the beach or go for a hike, so in truth, I'd like something I can read in small doses.

Linda Schumann, Newport Beach
What: *Clever Girl* by Tessa Hadley
Where: In the Bahamas!

Kathleen Peterson, Newport Beach
What: *Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina* by Misty Copeland

Where: I hope to read it bit by bit each morning in my dining room with my morning tea.

Chuck Fry, Newport Beach
What: *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown
Where: In my backyard on the chaise lounge under the umbrella with the fountain gurgling in the background.

Chris Keys, Laguna Beach
What: *Flash Boys* by Michael Lewis and *Back to Blood* by Tom Wolfe
Where: Favorite way to read is on my Kindle while sitting on the sofa and next is listening to audiobooks while driving.

Larry Thomas, Newport Beach
What: I'm already digging into the epic and fabulous page-turner *The Guns at Last Light: The War in Western Europe, 1944-1945* by Rick Atkinson.
Where: I will be visiting Normandy on a summer bike trip in this, the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

Catherine Fleet, Newport Beach
What: I have definitely been looking forward to reading *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai.
Where: Either on the beach or next to the pool.

Dan Fleet, Newport Beach
What: I'll be tackling the fiction of David Grossman and Orhan Pamuk in advance of a trip to Israel and Turkey in the fall, also hoping to finally get to *Team of Rivals* by Doris Kearns Goodwin.
Where: I generally try and pack several months of reading into our summer vacation. This year we'll be in Colorado.

Ryan Farhat, Newport Beach
What: *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell. An English teacher suggested this book for me and I've been meaning to read it, so when I have more time in the summer, I would like to get around to it.
Where: The beach since it is very peaceful and serene.



take a pause...to read

Calling all kids, teens and adults! Join us for our Summer Reading Program, *Paws to Read*, which kicks off with celebrations at all branch locations on Saturday, June 21 — the first day of summer. What's so great about it? Books, prizes, incentives, and weekly programs at every library location, including performers and craft activities throughout the seven weeks. And, the fact that each book is making you smarter and more interesting is simply an added bonus.



But the best reason of all for summer reading is in the numbers. According to well-documented studies cited by the California Library Association (CLA), when young people aren't engaged in educational activities during the summer, they experience learning loss. *Reading just five books over the summer can prevent this learning loss.* CLA also notes that summer reading loss is cumulative

and that by the end of sixth grade, children who consistently lose reading skills over the summer will be two years behind their classmates. That's reason number one for joining in.

The program is funded by a generous donation from the **Friends of the Library**. As always, the Library staff looks forward to another successful year of summer reading. Please join us! Sign up on the library website at newportbeachlibrary.org or at the library.

prizes

- Kids receive a book at the end of the program (August 8) and treasure chest prizes along the way
- Sprinkles gift cards awarded at weekly drawings for book reviews written and submitted by kids
- Adult readers are entered to win the grand prize drawing of Fashion Island gift cards along with Library Foundation canvas bags filled with signed books, t-shirts and more great stuff. Two winners will be chosen for each branch.

what to read?

Wondering what to read? Get inspired with great lists of books on the library's website at newportbeachlibrary.org. Check under the children's tab (the books are arranged according to age and grade), teens tab, and under books/movies/music. If you have questions or need help from a librarian, please call us at 949.718.3800 or stop by the library.

details

Date: June 21 through August 8

Activities: including musical barnyard extravaganza, down on the farm crafts, all about pets, safari crafts and much more.

Locations: all branches of the Newport Beach Public Library including Balboa, Corona del Mar, Mariners, and the Central Library.

felix yan



Felix Yan serves on the Board of Directors of the Library Foundation and is a Vice President at City National Bank. If Felix added up all the hours he has spent in libraries during his lifetime, the figure would probably be about two years. Two years. Not surprising considering that he has been going to the library on a very regular basis since he was a small boy.

Born in Hong Kong, Felix came to the United States when he was seven, just a year older than his twin daughters, Madison and Dakota, are now. His girls have been raised with Cantonese spoken in the house and books all around. Both Felix and his wife, Edna, are big readers and they've passed that love of books and reading on to their girls. The twins spend a minimum of thirty minutes a day with favorite titles like *Fly Guy*, *Fancy Nancy*, and *Elephant and Piggie*.

Needless to say, Felix is a huge library fan. He's also committed to keeping the library exceptional — and as much a part of his daughters' lives as the library was, and still is, to him. Read on for more about Felix, his favorite books, places and heroes.

1. All-time favorite book?

The Old Man and the Sea by Hemingway. It was actually one of the first books my father and I borrowed from a public library (the San Gabriel Library) and shared together when I was a kid.

2. What's on your nightstand?

The Tell-Tale Start by our very own Gordon McAlpine. It's one of the books I read together with Madison and Dakota before bedtime.

3. Favorite place to read?

Definitely in bed.

4. Hardback, paperback or eBook?

I do prefer hardback or paperback over ebooks. The scent of the pages and the feel of the paper really add to the experience and enjoyment. I especially miss the date-stamps of the past in books from the library.

5. Where do you get your news?

Usually from the web, CNN and Huffington Post.

6. Your heroes?

My mom and dad. They made so many sacrifices throughout their

lives to enrich the lives of my brothers and me.

7. Favorite place in the world?

Wow, this is a tough one. Can I be greedy and pick three instead? Bora Bora, Kauai and Bruges.

8. Favorite place in Orange County?

The beaches along our coast: Newport Beach, Corona del Mar and Laguna Beach

9. Important offerings of libraries today?

Books, technological tools and applications, accessibility to resources and information — and the stimulating programs available for kids, teens and adults.

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

I think as trends and interests change, the library will continue to evolve through our programs, technology and offerings to meet those needs. The library will always be the center of this community where patrons meet and connect — a gateway to invaluable resources, information and learning.

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6 	7
8	9 	10	11 	12	13 	14
15		17 Library Live Graeme Simson The Rosie Project 7:00 pm	18	19	20 	21 Summer Reading Program begins @ all Newport Library locations through August 8
22	23 Everything Crossword with David Steinberg 7:00 pm	24	25	26	27	28 
29	30					

everything crossword



About a hundred years ago, a New York newspaper published the first ever crossword puzzle. The new word game quickly gained a reputation as intelligent and it remains so today, with a smart and faithful following.

So in celebration of the clever crossword, the Newport Beach Public Library is pleased to welcome **David Steinberg**, crossword editor of *The Orange County Register's* 24 associated newspapers and the second-youngest *New York Times* crossword constructor published under well-known editor Will Shortz. Steinberg's

100-plus puzzles have appeared in leading newspapers and online sites, as well as in his e-book, *Chromatics*.

A fan of crosswords since the age of 12, David is currently a junior at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School. He can finish the daily *New York Times* puzzle in less than three minutes and less than ten for the longer Sunday version. His favorite thing about crosswords is learning new words, and his dream job? *New York Times* crossword editor, of course.

Please join us as David Steinberg provides a fascinating behind the scenes glimpse along with essential strategies of everything crossword.

WHO: David Steinberg

WHEN: Monday, June 23 @ 7pm

WHERE: Friends Room at Central Library

No reservations needed; first come first served

INFO: For information call 949-717-3860

Visit David's website at davidsteinbergcrosswords.com



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.

Fulfilling our mission is possible because of the individuals and corporations below. Thank you!

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Mrs. Charles H. Sword

James Waters in memory of
Pauline Waters

did you know?

you can digitize old formats to new?

Ever wanted to digitize your old vinyl LPs and cassette tapes into CDs? What about your VHS movies into DVD or Blu-ray format? How about photos, slides and transparencies that you need to digitize with a high quality scanner? Now you can do all of this and more – free of charge and with the support of a human staff person.

The new Sound Lab has just opened opposite the Media Lab at the Central Library. Maybe your college bound student needs to do a video voice-over? Send him or her over to the library! The Labs are open during regular library hours. For more information, please call the Reference Desk at 949.717.3860.





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bunnies & books for kids festival

Hundreds of kids and parents came out to enjoy a sunny day of crafts, games, books, a bit of Alice in Wonderland and what else? Bunnies. The Festival was part of the one-year anniversary celebrating the opening of the Newport Beach Civic Center and Park and will become an annual event. The Library Foundation organized **Bunnies & Books for Kids Festival** as part of the **Making Memories for Children** series. Enormous thanks to the many volunteers and Children's Library staff who helped to make it happen! See you next spring for more bunnies, books and fun.