

# BOOKMARK

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

WINTER 2015



sarah kay & phil kaye: project VOICE

# embracing change in the new year



**H**appy New Year! The Library Foundation had a banner year thanks to all of you who attended programs, sponsored lectures and joined or renewed your membership. As we close out one year and embrace the next, a few acknowledgements must be made.

In 2007, Gordon McAlpine stepped into the presidential shoes of the Library Foundation's Board of Directors. He led us adeptly and calmly through the turmoil of 2008 and continued to manage the Board with skill and grace until December 2014. Our budget is balanced, the endowment

has rebounded and our programming has expanded. Keep in mind, Gordon was writing novels all the while. In fact, at least five works: a trilogy of young adult fiction (*The Misadventures of Edgar and Allen Poe*) and *Hammett Unwritten*, a mystery novel that revolves around the life of the great detective novelist Dashiell Hammett. His first book of non-fiction, *The Way of Baseball, Finding Stillness at 95 MPH*, was published by Simon and Schuster in June 2011 to outstanding reviews. Gordon's short story "The Happiest Place" appeared in the Akashic Press anthology, *Orange County Noir*.

If you have attended any of our *Witte Lectures* or *Library Live* events, you may know Gordon as an articulate and humorous speaker who has made himself available to introduce many programs. We are truly fortunate that Gordon will continue to give his time to the *Witte Lectures* committee.

I also want to acknowledge Dorothy Larson in a very big way as she becomes President of the Board. We are fortunate to have her leadership and intellect, not to mention her passion for the library and this community. A past president of the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce, Dorothy has a successful accounting firm here in Newport Beach and expresses her civic-mindedness by volunteering at myriad events.



I am constantly moved by the amount of time people like Gordon and Dorothy give to our cause. Time is a precious commodity and they give it without recompense. Both of these individuals live fully engaged lives, and they always show up to give back to the library.

Thank you, Gordon McAlpine and Dorothy Larson, for your passion and commitment! And, thank you Library Foundation members and sponsors who make our library exceptional.

Tracy Keys  
Executive Director

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## the popular library is about to pop

The Popular Library is getting a fresh new look and a big shout out goes to Charles and Suzanne Turner for the extraordinary generosity that is making it possible. What is the Popular Library you might ask? It is the typically bustling main area (hence the name "Popular") on the first floor of the Central Library where you find all the magazines, newspapers, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks and comfortable places to read. The project is scheduled for completion by March of this year and will include new carpeting, shelving, furniture and a new configuration for better browsing.



## the golden age of comics!

You may have noticed from the preponderance of superhero films this year that the world of comic book characters is, more than ever, a mainstream art form. The major event many cite as marking the beginning of the Golden Age was the 1938 debut of *Superman* in *Action Comics* #1. With all the films, PBS programs, graphic novels and comic book conventions, the Golden Age has made a comeback.

With its graphic novel collection, and now with a presence at local comic conventions, the library is responding to the interests of the many comic culture fans out there. As a result, the library has been able to greatly expand the public's knowledge about library resources.

**On April 3-5**, the library will participate in Wondercom Anaheim courtesy of funding from the Library Foundation. Come on out and check out the booth in April...and the library staff in their favorite superhero costumes!

## your financial destiny

Back by popular demand, Peter Kote will lead the *It's Your Estate* workshops beginning **Monday, March 30** (see schedule at [nbpfoundation.org](http://nbpfoundation.org)). This annual eight-week series of workshops provides attendees with education and practical solutions to financial and estate planning issues, so they can be in charge of their estates during their lifetimes and beyond. These free workshops are presented as a community service—for education only. Nothing will be sold and professional advisors will not be given attendees' contact information. Peter Kote is founder of Professional Fiduciary Services, which provides trustee and executor services, and charitable counseling for individuals and organizations. This program is funded by the Library Foundation.

ESTATE PLAN



# Witte<sup>the</sup> LECTURES

## SERIES SPONSORS

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## MEDIA SPONSOR

**89.3 KPCC**  
Southern California Public Radio

# eighteenth season begins

The Witte Lectures, presented by the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation, applauds the generous sponsors listed here. The program is supported entirely by private funding and ticket sales. We also acknowledge our community of engaged, curious and interested individuals who keep it all going.

Special thanks goes to Francis and Marilyn Krahe for hosting an elegant reception in their stunning Corona del Mar home for sponsors in November.

The 2015 season will commence with the dynamic Kay & Kaye duo. You do not want to miss this. *For this program only*, we will have an after-party craft beer donated by **Cismontane Brewing Co.** Tasty edibles will be provided by **The Lime Truck.**

### Sarah Kay & Phil Kaye

Friday, January 23, 2015 @ 7:00pm  
Project VOICE

Tickets & Information: [nbplfoundation.org](http://nbplfoundation.org) or 949.548.2411

Cost: \$45\*/50 — \*discount for Foundation Members

**Special student & teacher price: \$20** (promo code "student")



Francis & Marilyn Krahe

Highlights from the evening with author Jonathan Franzen last October:



Jack Woodworth



Jonathan Franzen



Michael Gil



L to R: Eleanor Jaffe, Janet Hadley, Jene Witte



L to R: Andrea Henderson, Michael Szalay, Amy DePaul



Connie Glenn with Franzen



L to R: Matthew Witte, Barbara MacGillivray, Harvey Triebwasser, Greg MacGillivray

**SPEAKER UPDATES!** The New York Times has named Elizabeth Kolbert's *The Sixth Extinction* (Jan 30-31) one of the best non-fiction books of 2014. Evan Osnos (Feb 27-28) just received the National Book Award for non-fiction. Visit [nbplfoundation.org](http://nbplfoundation.org) for information on the entire series.

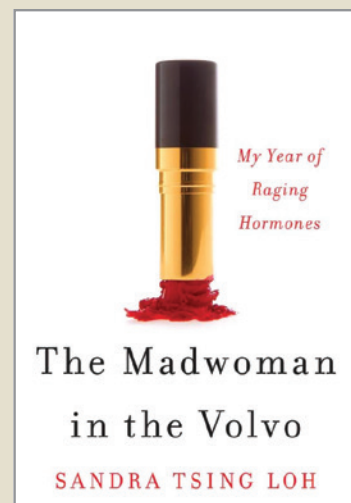


## sandra tsing loh

Thursday, February 19 @ 7:00pm

### *madwoman in the volvo*

From an "imaginatively twisted and fearless" writer (*Los Angeles Times*), comes a hilarious memoir of middle age. *Madwoman in the Volvo* is a wry and witty tale of "the change." Please join us as author and entertainer Sandra Tsing Loh talks about her new work and assures us all that it does get better.



## jack miles

Thursday, March 5 @ 7:00pm

### *sunni vs. shia: where will it end? clues from christian wars of religion*

Dr. Jack Miles, Distinguished Professor of English and Religious Studies with the University of California at Irvine and Senior Fellow for Religious Affairs with the Pacific Council on International Policy, is a writer whose work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Boston Globe* and many other publications. His book, *GOD: A Biography*, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1996. His book, *Christ: A Crisis in the Life of God*, led to his being named a MacArthur Fellow for the years 2003-2007. He is general editor of the newly published *Norton Anthology of World Religions*.

#### details:

- Seating is limited to 200
- Admission tickets will be given on a first-come, first-served basis
- Suggested \$10 donation at the door

#### schedule:

- Doors open at 6:30pm
- Program: 7:00-8:30pm
- Book sales & signing: 8:30-9:00pm
- Info: 949.548-2411 or [events@nbplfoundation.org](mailto:events@nbplfoundation.org)

#### Reservation Policy for Free Programs:

As Library Live programs are free of charge, it is our policy to overbook. In the case of a full program, your free reservation may not guarantee admission. We recommend arriving early to park and check in. You must be present to obtain a ticket to enter lecture room. Space permitting, we will release all unclaimed reservations at 7:00pm.



### SPECIAL LIBRARY FOUNDATION MEMBERS ONLY PROGRAM

## joyce carol oates

Thursday, April 2 @ 7:00pm

### *is the uninspired life worth living?*

To encourage new membership that keeps our organization thriving and to provide a great perk for our much-appreciated members, this program will be for members only. Tickets are just \$20 plus a current membership. Look for an eblast in early February when tickets will go on sale. If you are not getting email from us, please be sure we have your current email address.

For more information, and to sign up for eblasts, visit [nbplfoundation.org](http://nbplfoundation.org) or phone 949.548.2411.

Joyce Carol Oates' lecture will be a consideration of inspiration, obsession, the writing life, "why we write" and the value of art with examples drawn from a number of distinguished writers.

**About the author:** The prolific Joyce Carol Oates has penned bestselling novels, critically acclaimed collections of short fiction, as well as essays, plays and poetry. Writing in *The Nation*, critic Henry Louis Gates Jr. said, "A future archeologist equipped only with her oeuvre could easily piece together the whole of postwar America."



# “autumn”

## by emily farinella-collinske

We received a record number of submissions for this year's Creative Writing Contest and want to thank everyone who participated. We are pleased to announce that our 2014 winner is Emily Farinella-Collinske of Rancho Santa Margarita for her essay entitled *Autumn*. Congratulations, Emily!

Our second place winner is Stacey Yu for her essay entitled, *His Story, My Story*. Congratulations, Stacey!

The judges also selected two runners up: Claire Holland for *The Library* and Coral Nava for *Mural Mentor*. The essays can be read at [nbplfoundation.org](http://nbplfoundation.org).



Emily Farinella-Collinske

Everyday, after school, I go to the library to study. I could walk home but the library is quieter. It is almost comforting to be surrounded by books. I could also use the school library, but it mostly has computers and few books. I'm a bit in denial that one day everything will happen on computers. I can't even read a book on a computer or tablet. Reading digitally is like a sin to me.

One day I was sitting in the library, doing my homework, when this girl with a dog walks in. The dog is brown with white spots. It doesn't have a leash on or anything. I thought that was odd. Only

device dogs are allowed in the library. I keep on staring at her and the dog. She looks my age, sixteen, with light brown hair in a braid. The dog's head goes up to her waist and he keeps licking at her hand. She walks determinedly, grabs a book off the shelf, sits down, and reads. I am dumbfounded.

Finally the librarian notices the dog and calls to the girl, "He a service dog? Guide dog?"

The girl looks up, "Nope," she says and puts her head back down to read.

The librarian looks startled. "Well then," she says. "He must be taken out. No pets in the library."

The girl seems to ponder this for a moment. "May I check my book out first," she asks.

"I suppose..." the librarian says like she's not too sure what to do.

I am amused. I have never seen such a sight before. But the girl comes back the next day with the dog, and the next day, and the next day, and every weekday after that. And everyday the same thing happens. The girl walks determinedly into the library, the dog trots at her heels, she grabs the same book everyday, sits down, and reads until the librarian forces her to check out her book and go.

# medicine in our backyard: *the leading edge*

The Newport Beach Public Library continues its collaborative effort with the University of California, Irvine, to bring internationally recognized researchers to the Central Library. You will be astonished at what is happening in your own backyard! Please join us for the series below:



## dr. claudia kawas

Monday, January 26 @ 7:00pm

*living to age ninety and beyond*

UC Irvine's trailblazing 90+ Study, launched in 2003 and featured on CBS' 60 Minutes, is the longest continuing research effort focused exclusively on the distinctive health and lifestyle issues of Americans in their 90s or older.

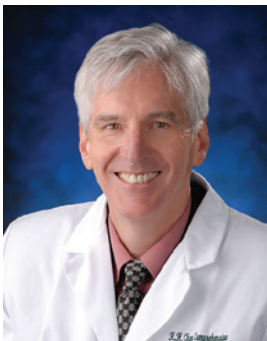


## dr. richard van etten

Monday, February 23 @ 7:00pm

*the promise of targeted and immune therapies:  
the future of cancer treatment is here*

Treatments that are directed at the underlying cause of cancers of the blood and lymphatic system, so called "targeted" therapies, have revolutionized the clinical approach to these diseases. These treatments lead to long-term remission and possible cure of some previously deadly leukemias and turn others into more chronic conditions. Dr. Van Etten will summarize some of the most exciting new developments in this area and give a glimpse into future directions.



## dr. william karnes and dr. deepika nathan

Monday, March 23 @ 7:00pm

*a colon cancer-free orange county: we can do this!*

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States and is among the most preventable cancers. Risk factors include age, lifestyle and genetics. UC Irvine Health offers a comprehensive high-risk program to help everyone understand the risks of developing colorectal cancer and what they can do to live their best. This new high-risk program is designed to help even those with inherited risk remain cancer-free. As home to Orange County's only National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center, UC Irvine Health is leading the way in the battle to treat and prevent cancer.



### *details:*

- 6:30pm doors open
- 7:00–8:30pm program
- Info: [newportbeachlibrary.org](http://newportbeachlibrary.org) or 949.717.3870
- Newport Beach Central Library
- No charge to attend
- Visit [newportbeachlibrary.org](http://newportbeachlibrary.org) for details on entire series

(Autumn continued from page 6)

After three months of watching this I finally gather up the courage to speak to her. I am curious; I mean she's been told many time not to bring the dog in. Why doesn't she listen?

After she walks in and sits down I go up to her.

"H-hello," I stammer.

"Hi," she doesn't look up from her book.

For the first time I see what she is reading, *The Little Prince*, by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.

"What's your name?" I ask, awkwardly running my foot along the floor.

"Summer. You?"

"Anthony."

She freezes. "That was my brother's name," she almost whispers.

"Can I ask you something? Why do you always bring that dog in here? You're told everyday not to.

She looks at me seriously. Like *really* seriously. "He has to make a very important decision," she says.

"Dog out. Now," snarls the librarian.

Summer looks up at me. "See ya. Come on, Autumn." The dog follows her, tail wagging.

The next day, when Summer comes in the library, I sit with her. We don't talk. We don't need to. I just sit with her and do my homework and while she reads *The Little Prince*. She gets told to leave, checks out her book, and goes. I do this everyday for a month. I just sit with her and pet Autumn. And we never talk. It's like we don't need to.

Finally, after she gets kicked out, I follow her outside.

"Where you going?" I ask.

"Home," Summer shrugs.

"Okay...bye," I say, rather awkwardly.

"What's your favorite book?" she asks suddenly, green eyes wide.

I'm taken back. "What?"

"Book," she says. "What's your favorite book?"

"*The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky. Why?"

She nods to herself. "Good book,"

murmurs. "Bye!" she runs off with Autumn at her heels.

*What a strange girl*, I think to myself.

The next day we actually talk. It's not really a conversation; it's more like Summer is interviewing me.

I sit down next to her and she looks at me, usually she just stares at her book, and asks, "What's your favorite song?"

"Take Me to Church."

"By Hozier?"

I nod. "Yeah."

"Favorite musical?"

I tilt my head to one side.

"Musical?"

"You seemed cultured," she responds.

"*Pippin*," I say. "By Roger O. Hirson."

"You have good taste."

"Thanks," I say. There is a pause. "What about you?"

"What about me?" asks Summer.

"What's your favorite song or book or musical?"

She looks at me like I'm completely stupid. "It doesn't matter. I'm not a option."

"You're not a *what*?" I ask, truly puzzled.

"Dog. Out," the librarian says, sounding more annoyed than mad.

Summer gives me her serious look. "Meet me outside the library tomorrow," she says. She puts *The Little Prince* back on the shelf. Which is odd because usually she checks it out and brings it back the next day and checks it out again. Autumn follows her out.

I meet her outside the next day. Autumn has a leash on. I have never seen a leash on the dog. She hands me the leash and an envelope.

"What's this?" I ask

"He's your dog now. He picked you. I knew he would," she was crying.

"What. No Autumn's your dog, Summer," I try to hand the leash back to her. She won't take it.

She starts to cry hard. Scary hard. She hugs Autumn and he licks her face, whimpering. "Be good for Anthony,

boy. I love you so, so much." She kisses him.

She stands up and hugs me. "The letter will explain everything," she says. "Thank you." She turns away.

"Summer," I say.

She turns around.

"You're my best friend."

I watch as she runs off.

I'm truly confused and a bit angry that she left her dog with me, but somehow I couldn't refuse.

I open the letter.

Dear Anthony,  
Though I have only known you a short time I can already tell you are an amazing person. Someone trustworthy. Someone worthy of owning Autumn. My brother was diagnosed with a brain tumor when I was six and he was ten. He died when he was twelve. I got Autumn shortly after. I never knew my mother, but my father became so grief-stricken he took his life. After that, I was put into foster care where, moving homes so much, my only family is Autumn. I was diagnosed with what my brother had a few years ago. Now it's back and terminal. I am going to check into the hospital tonight. I won't be coming out. I chose the library to look for Autumn's new owner because one, I couldn't leave him in the pound and two, at libraries people tend to need books more than technology. I wanted someone with that trait to care for Autumn. Autumn couldn't stop looking at you from the moment we walked in four months ago and I knew that he wanted you. After the questions I asked you, and the way you answered, I knew that I could trust you. Please take care of him. I love Autumn and you.  
Love, Summer

A week later I got a package in the mail with two things.

One was another letter saying Summer had died.

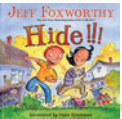
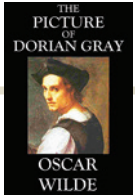

The second was a copy of *The Little Prince*.



# CALENDAR

## JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Book Group <i>Mary Coin</i> by Marisa Silver 9:15–11:00am	15	16 	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Witte Lectures Sarah Kay & Phil Kaye <i>Project Voice</i> 7:00pm	24
25	26 <i>Medicine In Our Backyard</i> Dr. Claudia Kawas 7:00pm	27	28	29 	30 Witte Lectures Elizabeth Kolbert <i>The Sixth Extinction</i> 7:00pm	31 Witte Lectures Elizabeth Kolbert <i>The Sixth Extinction</i> 2:00pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2	3 	4	5	6	7
8 Making Memories for Children Steve Bjorkman <i>Children's Illustrator</i> 2:00–3:30pm	9	10	11 Book Group <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> by Oscar Wilde 9:15–11:00am	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Library Live Sandra Tsing Loh <i>Madwoman in the Volvo</i> 7:00pm	20	21
22	23 <i>Medicine In Our Backyard</i> Dr. Richard Van Etten 7:00pm	24	25	26 	27 Witte Lectures Evan Osnos <i>The Age of Ambition in China</i> 7:00pm	28 Witte Lectures Evan Osnos <i>The Age of Ambition in China</i> 2:00pm

## FEBRUARY

## MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Making Memories for Children Craig Newton <i>How to Write a Song</i> 2:00–3:30pm	2	3 	4	5 Library Live Jack Miles <i>Sunni vs. Shia</i> 7:00pm	6	7
8 	9	10	11 Book Group <i>This Beautiful Life</i> by Helen Schulman 9:15–11:00am	12	13 	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Witte Lectures Dr. Daniel Levitin <i>This Is Your Brain On Music</i> 7:00pm	21 Witte Lectures Dr. Daniel Levitin <i>This Is Your Brain On Music</i> 2:00pm
22	23 <i>Medicine In Our Backyard</i> Dr. Deepika Nathan 7:00pm	24	25	26	27	28
29 	30 <i>It's Your Estate Introduction</i> 10:00–11:30am	31				

# 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! The following represents gifts given and new pledges made from August 13 to December 9, 2014.

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(\$100,000+)

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(\$35 - for ages 20-39)  
 Malika Middlebrooks

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(\$15 - membership for children)  
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 James Gianulias  
 Alex Gomez

Charles Gomez  
 Isabel Gomez  
 Ella Hayes  
 Journey Brown Kistler  
 Rush Kistler  
 Piers Nicklin  
 Theresa Olah  
 Arin Pai  
 Sam Scalero  
 Savannah Sherr  
 Alanna J.L. Speyer  
 Dakota Yan  
 Madison Yan

## TRIBUTE GIFTS

**In honor of Larry Spitz's birthday:**

Joan David  
 Claire Hammerman  
 Joan Hellinger  
 Corinne Stransky

**In memory of Lockie Leonard**

**In memory of Pat Neisser**

From Tom & Barbara Peckenpaugh

**In honor of Barbara & Jim Matheson**

From Barbara Thibault

**In memory of James Riley**

From Dara Elstein

**In memory of Marilyn Nielsen**

We acknowledge the passing of Marilyn Nielsen, who served on the Board of Directors in the early days of the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation, along with her husband Tom. The Nielsen name is synonymous with philanthropy in Orange County. Marilyn, you shall be missed.

**In memory of Nora Hester**

The epitome of grace, poise, vitality and kindness, Nora Hester was a great fan of the Martin W. Witte Lecture Series. Nora's beautiful smile at the many receptions and programs she attended will be greatly missed.



Nora (2nd from left) with friends at Seymour Hersh lecture in 2006.

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# “making memories for children”

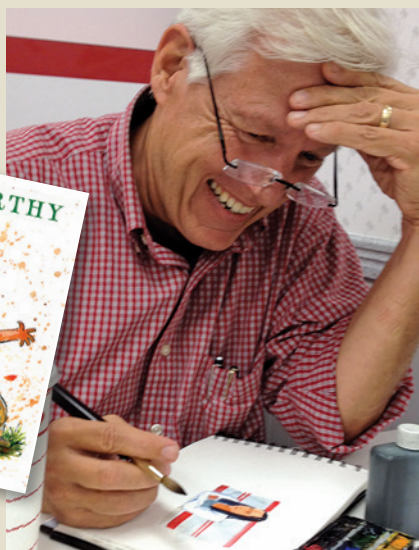
## 2015 PROGRAMS



### *details:*

**Where:** Central Library  
**Time:** 2:00pm  
**Cost:** Free; suggested \$10  
donation at the door  
**Info:** [nbplfoundation.org](http://nbplfoundation.org)  
949.548.2411

*These programs are sponsored  
by the Library Foundation with  
generous support from Terry  
and Sharon Bridges.*



### *children's book illustrator* **steve bjorkman**

Sunday, February 8 @ 2:00pm

Steve Bjorkman has illustrated nearly one hundred picture books, including the *New York Times* bestseller, *Dirt on My Shirt* by Jeff Foxworthy. Children will learn how he creates art for books.



### *musician* **craig newton**

Sunday, March 1 @ 2:00pm

### *the creativity of music*

Multi-instrumentalist and singer Craig Newton will guide participants in an exploration of the ways that instruments make sounds and music. Then the audience will work together to write a simple song and record it. Volunteers will help to play a couple of instruments and everyone will help out with the vocal part of the song.