

Return Your Ballot at Select Library Locations

Dear Community,

The **September 14th** state election is around the corner! Don't forget to drop off your ballot at our participating libraries. You can also visit San Carlos Library which now serves as an in-person Vote Center where staff answer questions and help you register to vote. [Belmont](#), [Brisbane](#), [East Palo Alto](#), [Half Moon Bay](#), [North Fair Oaks](#), [San Carlos](#), and [Woodside](#) Libraries all have ballot boxes ready to help you conveniently exercise your voting rights. Depending on the location, some may be indoors or just outside the library.

If you need more information on voting in this election, or a list of ballot drop boxes and vote centers available throughout the county, look no further than our trusted, non-partisan [voting page](#).

Explore More



[Creating a Sense of Belonging](#)

Join us for "Welcoming Week," an annual campaign and celebration to showcase the growing movement of communities striving to be more welcoming places for all.

There are many people in our communities who identify as immigrants. People may have emigrated from all over the world with different reasons for leaving their home countries, but one thing they have in common is wanting to call the United States home. We're delighted to offer two outdoor storytimes, in partnership with San Mateo County's Office of Community Affairs [Immigrant Services](#) program and [Welcoming America](#), to celebrate our immigrant populations and help foster more inclusive and understanding communities.

Tuesday, September 14 at 10:30 AM

[Half Moon Bay Library](#)

Thursday, September 16 at 10:30 AM

[Friendship Park in Redwood City](#)

Join Us



[Equity Through Art: The Story of Silicon Valley](#)

We live in the heart of the tech world, but sometimes we need to take a moment to appreciate the lives beneath the shiny surface of Silicon Valley. Join Mary Beth Meehan and Fred Turner in discussion with Shireen Malekafzali, the Chief Equity Officer at San Mateo County on **Wednesday, September 22 at 6:00 PM** to learn about the arresting photography and intimate stories in [Seeing Silicon Valley](#). Instead of young entrepreneurs striving for efficiency in minimalist corporate campuses, we see portraits of struggle—families displaced by an impossible real estate market, workers striving for a living wage, and communities harmed by environmental degradation. If the fate of Silicon Valley is the fate of America—as so many of its boosters claim—then this book gives us an unvarnished look into the future. This event kicks off our 2021–2022 Equity through Art series in partnership with the County of San Mateo's Office of Equity and Social Justice.

Register Now



[Reading for Back to School](#)

With the return to school, we know children are looking for good books to read. We've got you covered with reading lists for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade, plus tips for helping you pick a "just right" book! If you need more learning support, our [Teacher and Student Resources page](#) makes it easier than ever to find everything you need, from [homework help](#) to [online resources](#), to make this the best possible school year.

Find Your Next Read



[Meet the Author of *The President and the Frog*](#)

Curious about the craft of writing and translating? Carolina De Robertis will be joining us in conversation discussing her latest book, [The President and the Frog](#), a timeless and timely exploration of power, revolution and survival in which a former Latin American president reminisces on his remarkable life. [Register](#) in advance to join us for this virtual event on **Tuesday, September 28 at 7:00 PM**. Pick up a free copy of the book (while supplies last) beginning **Monday, September 13** at all San Mateo County Libraries [locations](#).

Meet Carolina

Explore More

Explore, learn, and connect at our [virtual library programs](#)! You might also be interested in ...

[High Low Movie Club Presents Fear City](#)

Thursday, September 9 • 8:00 PM

This month we're excited to razz Abel Ferrara's [Fear City](#). Come prepared to share your best joke and GIFS or just appreciate the pithy commentary of your fellow moviegoers.

[Labor Market Information: Find Your Next Job](#)

Tuesday, September 14 • 10:00 AM

Learn how to effectively use Labor Market Information as a tool to make informed accurate decisions on how to get a job, improve skills, or enhance your career.

[What Should I Do Before Something Happens to Me?](#)

Tuesday, September 14 • 7:00 PM

Mortality is a natural part of the cycle of life. Learn steps to take to make things easier on yourself and your family before something happens to you.

[California Native Gardening](#)

Thursday, September 16 • 4:00 PM

Learn about the benefits of choosing native plants and discover which will work for your garden from UC Master Gardener Leslie Muenneemann.

[Haiku Club](#)

Thursday, September 16 • 7:00 PM

Whether you're a haiku beginner or you've got the syllables down pat, join us as we discuss haiku, haiku theory, writing tips, and share our own poems.

[Save a Life: Share Your Story](#)

Tuesday, September 21 • 7:30 PM

Join award-winning author Linda Hamilton to learn about the rise of the memoir in popular literature, and to get tips on sharing your own story.

Explore All Events

Community Picks

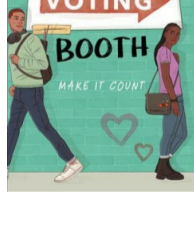
Our Community Picks titles are available digitally through [online resources](#) or in print at [our libraries](#).



Children's Fiction: [Vote for Our Future!](#) by [Margaret McNamara](#), illustrated by [Micah Player](#)

This colorful picture book is a great read for kids to help them understand why elections are important, and what they can do to participate in the democratic process even though they're not yet eligible to vote.

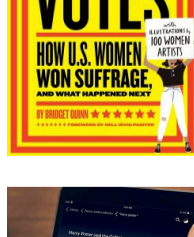
Alice, Portola Valley and Woodside Libraries



Young Adult Novel: [The Voting Booth](#) by [Brandy Colbert](#)

Set over the course of Election Day, Marva and Duke meet while in line to vote for the first time. Marva has been working to get out the vote for weeks, but Duke is turned away due to a technicality. Throughout a day filled with misadventures (including hunting for a missing cat), Marva makes it her mission to ensure Duke can fulfill his civic duty.

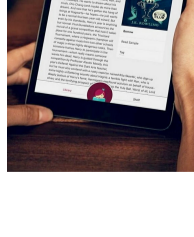
Deidre, San Carlos Library



Adult Nonfiction: [She Votes: How U.S. Women Won Suffrage, and What Happened Next](#) by [Bridget Quinn](#)

What could be more timely? This book provides context for the 100+ years struggle for voting rights up to the present day and this past November election.

Nicole, Programming and Outreach

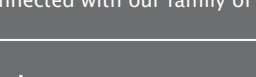


eResource Spotlight: [Libby by Overdrive](#)

When accessing eBooks and Audiobooks provided by Overdrive a few years back, I found it challenging. That was until I started using Libby by Overdrive, a new application with a great interface for accessing e-content. I was ecstatic that the app was available on the iOS platform so I could read and listen on my iPad. Shortly after, I developed great confidence in downloading eBooks and Audiobooks and even advocated for Libby with library visitors. It seems Libby just keeps expanding with their latest addition of eMagazines. I could not be happier with Libby by Overdrive and I will continue to explore more titles on the go with Libby!

David, Belmont Library

Make sure to [follow our blogs](#) for updates on new events, resources, and services.



Stay connected with our family of libraries!

San Mateo County Libraries

ATHERTON | BELMONT | BRISBANE | EAST PALO ALTO | FOSTER CITY | HALF MOON BAY | MILLBRAE | NORTH FAIR OAKS
PACIFICA SANCHEZ | PACIFICA SHARP PARK | PORTOLA VALLEY | SAN CARLOS | WOODSIDE | BOOKMOBILE

Open for Exploration™

[smcl.org](#)

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