



### Inspiring Early Readers with Read-Along Books

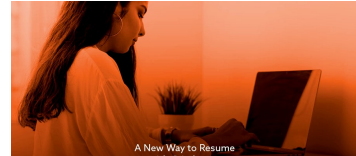
Dear Community,

At San Mateo County Libraries, we are all about encouraging growth and supporting young minds by offering innovative solutions to engage struggling readers.

One of our top recommendations is read-along books, which provide narration using an audio reader attached to the book. Reading along with an audiobook has been shown to improve reading comprehension.

It's why these books are also a great option for very young pre-literate children as well as ESL readers of any age. Learn more about read-along books and help inspire the early readers in your life.

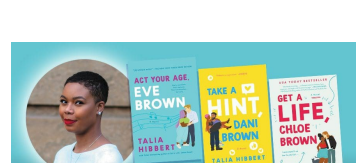
[Learn More](#)



### [A New Way to Resume With Grindstone](#)

Calling all students! Learn how to use the online platform [Grindstone](#) and create your own shareable portfolio (like a resume but modernized). During this tutorial, students can ask questions related to job searching and applications, and at the conclusion of the program, everyone will have their resume/portfolio.

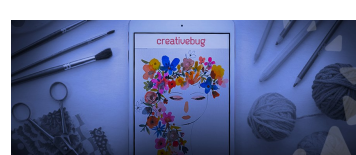
[Register Now](#)



### [Meet Bestselling Author Talia Hibbert](#)

We are excited to welcome [Talia Hibbert](#), author of the popular *Brown Sisters* series on **Saturday, December 4 at 12:00 PM**. Join us as she discusses her writing, reads from her books and takes questions from the audience.

[Register Now](#)



### [Get Crafting with Creativebug](#)

Cooler temperatures, longer nights and more holidays on the way make it the perfect time to get crafting. If you'll have kids home from school soon or just want to have some indoor fun, find a way to express your creativity with help from [Creativebug](#).

[Explore Now](#)

# Explore More

Explore, learn, and connect at our [library programs!](#)

### [Understanding Credit & Credit Repair](#)

Friday, December 3 • 2:00 PM

South San Francisco Public Library is teaming up with San Mateo County Libraries and Housing Economic Rights Advocates (HERA) to help improve financial wellness for veterans.

### [The Power of Meditation and Gratitude This Holiday Season](#)

Monday, December 6 • 11:00 AM

Join Arlene Samel, long-time meditator and national speaker for this transformational workshop where you'll learn about the many benefits of meditation.

### [Lit Lovers Book Club](#)

Wednesday, December 8 • 7:30 PM

Join our Lit Lovers Book Club on Zoom! In December, we're reading [City of Girls](#) by [Elizabeth Gilbert](#).

### [AstroloCurious: Astrology Basics for Self-Reflection](#)

Tuesday, December 14 • 6:30 PM

Join counseling astrologer Cassandra Ramirez for this 75-min beginner level workshop where attendees participate through live journaling and discussion as they learn the foundations of modern astrology.

### [Holiday Name That Tune](#)

Wednesday, December 15 • 4:00 PM

For this fun brain game, Ben Pernick, a board-certified music therapist, challenges older adults to identify the song titles, artists, and lyrics from a repertoire of over 500 melodies.

### [Art Talk – Color into Line: Pastels from the Renaissance to the Present](#)

Wednesday, December 15 • 7:00 PM

This talk will trace the history of pastels while also providing audiences a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to appreciate rare works not usually on public view.

[Explore All Events](#)

# Community Picks

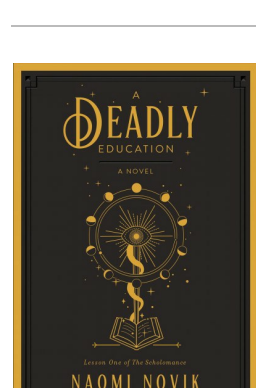
Our Community Picks titles are available digitally through [online resources](#) or in print at our libraries.



### Children's Fiction: [Never After: The Thirteenth Fairy](#) by [Melissa De la Cruz](#)

Filomena is an average tween living in a boring suburb with average parents. Nothing ever happens in her town, until one day she finds that she is being followed by... it looks like a book series, Jack the Stalker! But he's not real... is he? What follows is an action-packed adventure perfect for fractured fairytale fans. For grades 5-8.

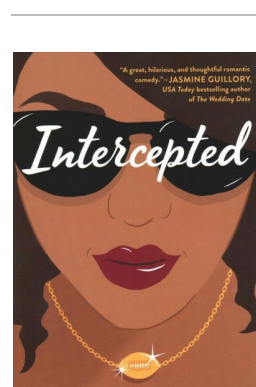
*Angela, Pacifica Sharp Park Library*



### Young Adult Fiction: [A Deadly Education](#) by [Naomi Novik](#)

The Scholomance is a magical school unlike any other. Monsters lurk in every corner and without allies, the chances of surviving and making it to graduation are slim. El has plenty of power but that power has a darkness to it, which has left her isolated. That is, until the school hero, Orion, lands in her life. Too bad he's the last person she'd ever ask for help.

*Elise, Millbrae Library*



### Adult Fiction: [Intercepted](#) by [Alexa Martin](#)

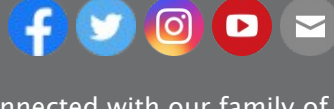
This romance novel was so good, I could not put it down. This is a football wives drama type of book, which kept it really fun and dramatic!

*Elena, Brisbane Library*

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



## Explore in-Person Library Events for Children



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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