



Dear Community,

What an incredible year it's been. As 2022 comes to a close, we'd like to take a moment to thank you for your support of [San Mateo County Libraries](#), reflect on the past year and welcome an exciting new year ahead.

This year was full of many wonderful achievements, and we couldn't have done it without the dedicated support of our staff, volunteers and partners like you. In just 12 months, we launched [7-day-a-week service](#) in each of our communities, opened our award-winning [new Atherton Library](#), introduced a [new after-school program](#) and encouraged everyone to explore our beautiful outdoors by offering [free parks passes](#).

It is also a proud moment for us to end the year being named by Library Journal as one of the [top-rated libraries](#) in the nation. This is our second year receiving a 5-star rating, the highest level possible, representing the top 1% of all public libraries in the United States. Ratings are based on how the public uses their library and are a testament to your steadfast support.

It has been a joy to see our communities connecting with one another again at San Mateo County Libraries. Your energy and excitement around our expanding offerings inspire us and it continues to be an honor and pleasure to provide award-winning service. We envision a bright and impactful year ahead and will work hard to build a wonderful future for everyone in our community.

Join us in ringing in 2023. We can't wait to see you inside [our libraries](#) and connect with you across our communities.

Sincerely,
Anne-Marie Despain
Director of Library Services



[Your Top Picks of 2022!](#)

Curious about this year's most checked out books at [San Mateo County Libraries](#)? So are we! Take a look at our book lists to see the top 10 most borrowed books for adults and youth in our libraries from the past year. Start the new year by taking home more amazing titles!

[Read More](#)



[Shelf Life: Tanya Beat](#)

Tanya Beat is the director of the [San Mateo County Commission on the Status of Women](#) and the [LGBTQ Commission](#). Learn about what Tanya's currently reading, and prepare to be inspired by the books that have changed her life.

[Learn More](#)



[Explore Even More With Newspaper Databases](#)

Your [San Mateo County Libraries card](#) will unlock archives of historical newspaper articles, track down an obituary of a long-lost relative or help you research special newsworthy topics. Find the answers you can't get on Google. Whether you are a student, an amateur genealogist or want more in-depth information on a topic, these research tools can help.

[Explore More](#)



[Holiday Closures](#)

All [San Mateo County Libraries](#) and [Customer Care](#) will be closed for New Year's on [Saturday, December 31](#), [Sunday, January 1](#) and [Monday, January 2](#). Visit us at [smcl.org](#).

Explore More

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

[Free Meals at the Library / Comida Gratis en la Biblioteca](#)

December 30 & January 3 & 4 • Some San Mateo County Libraries

Get your free meal at the library. Adults with kids eat free too! For more information, contact our [Customer Care](#).

Comida gratis en la biblioteca. ¡Adultos con niños también comen gratis! Para más información, llama a nuestro [servicio de cliente](#).

[NovaWorks Job Resource](#)

Wednesday, January 4 • 1:00 PM • [Pacifica Sharp Park Library](#)

Experienced career advisers from [NOVAworks](#) can show you the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in your job search. They'll help you develop an effective resume, prepare for interviews, meet with other job seekers and increase your connections. Find out how to connect with employers through hiring events and create a job search plan.

[Drop-In 3D Printing](#)

Saturday, January 7 • 1:00 PM • [North Fair Oaks Library](#)

Drop in and learn how to 3D print. We will take you through the whole 3D printing process from start to finish! No registration is necessary.

[Moving Forward, Looking Back](#)

Sunday, January 8 • 3:00 PM • [Foster City Library](#)

Join us for a celebration of *Moving Forward, Looking Back*, a debut anthology starring fresh voices from [San Mateo County Libraries'](#) own [Guided Autobiography series!](#)

Explore the joys and challenges of making meaning as years go by and our lives evolve. Learn how you can put pen to paper to reflect on your own unique legacy. Registration is required.

[Dave Rocha Jazz](#)

Thursday, January 12 • 4:00 PM • [Portola Valley Library](#)

[Dave Rocha](#) is a professional jazz trumpet player who has performed coast to coast, including NYC, LA, Seattle and the San Francisco Bay Area. Listen to Dave and his band play an eclectic mix of jazz standards (by Miles Davis, Wayne Shorter, John Coltrane, etc.), "pop" tunes (by Cole Porter, Gershwin and Jobim) and original compositions.

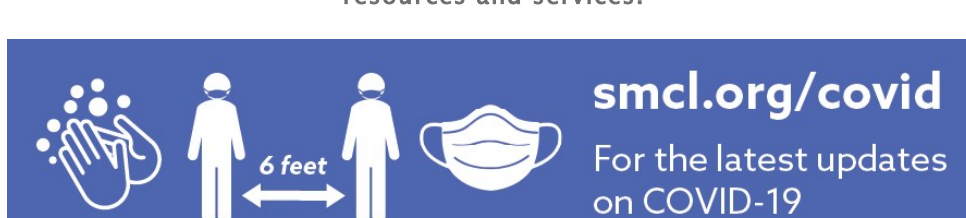
[Belmont Talks – How Congress Really Works](#)

Thursday, January 12 • 6:30 PM • [Belmont Library](#)

Dr. Eric Saund, 2020–2021 Congressional Fellow, will talk about how Congress really works. Dr. Saund will discuss how the Senate and House get along, the influence of lobbyists, the significance of Committees, what happens when you call your representative and much more! Bring your own questions about myth versus reality on how Washington works. This talk will be held both in person and virtually. Registration is required.

[Explore All Events](#)

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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If you are not already subscribed to our weekly eNewsletter or would like to browse past issues, visit our [eNewsletter page](#).