

December 2022
Library Stakeholder Report
Jennifer Weeks, County Librarian

Looking Back on 2022

Life in the library has moved ahead to a new normal in 2022 after the challenges of the previous years caused by COVID-19. It is wonderful to see children once again enjoying in-person storytime, groups gathering for Conversation Clubs, and major exhibits happening at our libraries for patrons of every age.

We kicked off the year with Silicon Valley Reads, where we celebrated “***The Power of Kindness, Resilience & Hope***” that featured inspiring stories and lots of virtual options, reaching over 10,000 people countywide.

SCCLD Libraries helped to keep everyone healthy. Every community library, in partnership with Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, distributed thousands of Rapid Antigen tests and masks in February to help keep COVID-19 transmission rates down. We also expanded our [BookDash program](#) to all of our service area so that those who are unable to make it to one of our libraries due to health or disability issues can obtain the items they wish delivered to their door.

This summer many of us chose to “[Read Beyond the Beaten Path](#).” Wonderful events took place at our libraries, ranging from magic shows and animal encounters, to museum talks and author talks.

In an effort to better connect Library patrons with key County and other services, a Community Outreach Specialist now works out of the Milpitas Library and Ochoa Migrant Center in Gilroy. This role supports our goal that modern libraries be an active partner in local communities.

Our [Distinguished Authors Series](#) speakers captivated their audiences with personal stories about their experiences and inspirations for their major works. Starting with Emmy-Award journalist Emily Chang and the discussion of sexism in Silicon Valley, to the limitless genre writing of author Silvia Moreno-Garcia, and finally the physically and intellectually nourishing insights from Dr. Daphne Miller about how to build a healthier and more resilient food system, our special guests did not disappoint.

The Panel Discussion with labor pioneer [Dolores Huerta](#) (more on event below) was a huge success, with a capacity crowd at the Wheeler Center in Gilroy. The associated Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibitions Services exhibit at Gilroy Library will be open through Monday, January 23, 2023. If you had not had a chance yet to see it, consider making plans.

2023 is shaping up to be a busy year, with the Library District set to share its vision for the next half-decade. More to come on that soon! Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season.



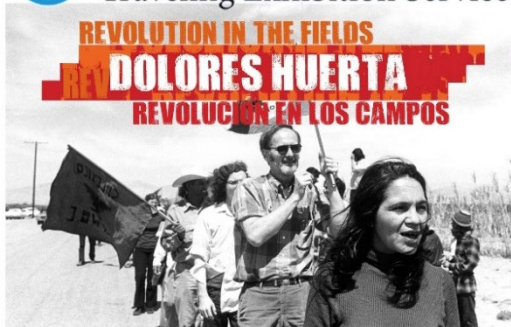
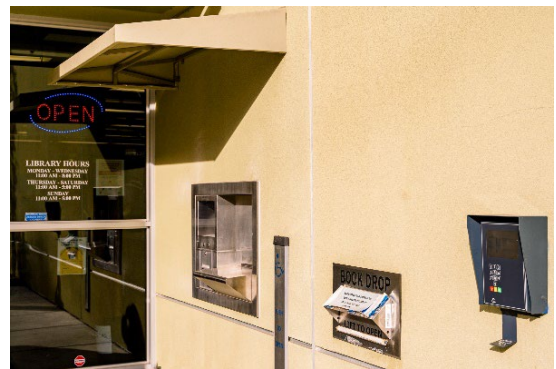


New Reading Challenge

Winter is a great time to cozy up with a good book. Throughout December and January, explore booklists and activities all based around the frostiest time of year. Check out our booklists for adults, teens, and children, and find a winter read that speaks to you! Then, explore activities related to various services the library has to offer. Sign up starting on [December 1 here](#).

Woodland Library Offers Patrons Extra Service Hours with New Pilot Program

Woodland Library patrons who sign up for a new self-service program will be able to access the library a full three hours earlier on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. All they need to do is sign up at the Woodland Library front desk. Then, on their next visit scan their library card on a new security panel (on far right of photo) and they can enter to browse Woodland's collection as early as 8 am. This idea came from feedback from library users.



Huerta Panel Event & Gilroy Library Exhibit

Approximately 600 people attended a one of its kind event on Saturday, November 12 put on by Gilroy Library with help from the South County Youth Task Force, City of Gilroy Parks and Rec, and Latino Family Fund. A panel featuring labor icon Dolores Huerta as well as Santa Clara University instructor and author Francisco Jiménez (**The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child**) and actor and film director Luis Valdez (Teatro Campesino, *La Bamba*) discussed their roles in the fight for equality for farmworkers and the Latino community more broadly.

The accompanying exhibit, [Dolores Huerta: Revolution in the Fields/Revolución en los Campos](#), is at Gilroy Library **through Monday, January 23, 2023**. The exhibit was organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in collaboration with the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery and received federal support from the Latino Initiatives Pool, administered by the Smithsonian Latino Center. For those who missed the panel discussion, a recording is available [on our website](#).

***We Are Not Strangers* Exhibit at Milpitas Library**

While many Californians know about the history of migration by African Americans from the South to cities in the state, fewer are aware about the many black farmers, ranchers and rural residents who came to the state since the 1949 Gold Rush.

A new traveling exhibit at Milpitas Library titled [***We Are Not Strangers Here: African American Histories in Rural California***](#) seeks to share stories about some of these families. Patrons can find it in the Milpitas Library Courtyard through Wednesday, January 4, 2023.



We Are Not Strangers Here is a collaboration between the Cal Ag Roots Project at the California Institute for Rural Studies, Susan Anderson of the California African American Museum, the California Historical Society, Exhibit Envoy, and Dr. Caroline Collins of UC San Diego. The exhibit is supported by a series of [podcasts available on SoundCloud](#).



The Library Can Help You Buy Smart

Before you make any large purchases for the holidays, make sure to check out the latest issue of *Consumer Reports* for product reviews and ratings, available for free with your library account.

The Library also carries current issues of *Consumer Reports Buying Guide* and *AARP: The Magazine*. Find these publications using our free eResource, [Flipster](#).

Also check out the [Bay Area Consumers' Checkbook](#) for additional help.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT DECEMBER 2022 EVENTS

Note: All libraries will be closed and services unavailable on Sunday and Monday, December 25 & 26 for Christmas. Libraries will close at 5 p.m. on Saturdays, December 24 & 31.

CAMPBELL EXPRESS LIBRARY – 1 West Campbell Avenue, Room 46

Adult Christmas Crafts

Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Orchard City Banquet Hall

Join us for this craft program to use affordable or recycled materials to make cool Christmas stuff. Materials will be provided but you are welcome to bring some also, like origami paper, scraps of cotton fabric and wrapping ribbon. Please register.

Indoor Storytime for Kids 0-5

Wednesdays, December 7 & 14, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Orchard City Banquet Hall

Join us for stories, songs, and more! Please bring a blanket or towel to sit on. No registration required.

CUPERTINO -- 10800 Torre Avenue

Storytime for 3-5s

Thursdays, December 1, 8, & 15, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Room 101

This storytime is suitable kids ages 3-5 years old, and will feature stories, songs, rhymes and dances that encourage the development of early literacy skills. Storytime is limited to the first 100 families.

Homework Help for K-9th Grade

Monday-Thursday through December 15, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Academic coaches from the Bay Area Tutoring Association can provide help in English, history, math and science. No registration required. Walk-ins welcome as space allows.

Family Storytime

Saturdays, December 3, 10, & 17, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Room 101

This storytime is suitable for all ages and will feature stories, songs, rhymes and dances that encourage the development of early literacy skills. Storytime is limited to the first 100 families.

Teen Holiday Craft (Ages 12-18)

Saturday, December 3, 2 – 3 p.m., Room 201 A

Decorate your own tote bag to use or give as a gift. Register online.

Storytime for Babies

Mondays, December 5, 12, & 19, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Room 101A

This storytime features stories and songs that encourage the development of early literacy skills. Storytime is limited to the first 25 babies with a maximum of 2 adults per family.

Storytime for 1s and 2s

Tuesdays, December 6 & 13, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Room 101

This storytime is suitable kids ages 1-2 years old, and will feature stories, songs, rhymes and dances that encourage the development of early literacy skills. Storytime is limited to the first 100 families.

ESL Conversation Club

Tuesdays, December 6 & 13, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., Room 201A

Practice your English conversation skills with friends. This program is for adults who speak basic English. Please register online.

Baby Wearing Dance

Wednesdays, December 7 & 14, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Room 101

New and expectant moms are invited to learn fun dances while wearing or holding your baby and take care of yourself while bonding with your little one. Bring a water bottle.

Evening Storytime

Wednesdays, December 7 & 14, 7 – 7:30 p.m., Room 101

This storytime series is suitable for all ages and will feature stories, songs, rhymes and dances. Please bring a yoga mat or blanket to sit on. Storytime is limited to the first 100 families.

Cupertino Library Adult Book Discussion

Thursday, December 15, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Room 201 A

We will discuss [Matrix](#) by Lauren Groff.

GILROY -- 350 W. Sixth Street

Storytime

Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Ground Floor Children's Activity Room

Join us for stories, songs and more. Space is limited.

Knitting & Crochet Weekly Meetup

Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, 1 – 4 p.m., Upstairs Quiet Study B

Bring your projects, ask questions, receive help and meet new people! No registration necessary.

Snack Break for Kids

Mondays-Fridays through December 16, 3 -4 p.m., Pick up near Accounts Desk

Kids ages 18 and under are welcomed to pick up an afterschool snack, while supplies last. No registration necessary.

Homework Help for K-9th Grade

Monday-Thursday through December 15, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Academic coaches from the Bay Area Tutoring Association can provide help in English, history, math and science. No registration required. Walk-ins welcome as space allows.

Book Discussion

Friday, December 2, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m., Upstairs Quiet Study B

We will be discussing [*The House in the Cerulean Sea*](#) by T.J. Klune. Registration is encouraged in case we need to contact you with any updates.

Medi-Cal Workshop and Enrollment Help

Wednesdays, December 7 & 14, 3 – 5 p.m., Upstairs Computer Training Lab

Learn about Medi-Cal and enroll with your driver's license or ID, paystub, and federal income tax return. Help available in English and Spanish. Register online.

Open Poetry Readings with Garlicky Group of Poets

Saturday, December 10, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Downstairs Meeting Room

Read whatever poetry you want to read and join in related discussions. No registration necessary.

Safe Space Meeting for LGBTQ+ Youth

Tuesday, December 13, 4 – 6 p.m., Downstairs Meeting Room

This in-person support group is for youth and young adults (ages 13-25). Play games, participate in group activities and discussions and build community. No registration necessary.

LOS ALTOS -- 13 S. San Antonio Road

ESL Conversation Club

Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Practice your English conversation skills with friends. This program is for adults who speak basic English. No registration needed.

Homework Help for K-9th Grade

Monday-Thursday through December 15, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Academic coaches from the Bay Area Tutoring Association can provide help in English, history, math and science. No registration required. Walk-ins welcome as space allows.

Bilingual Spanish Storytime

Fridays, December 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Orchard Room

Join us for stories, songs and movements in Spanish and English. Due to limited space, free tickets will be handed out 30 minutes before the program. Tickets are first come, first served.

Baby Sign Time with Miss Stefanie

Saturday, December 3, 10:30 – 11 a.m., Orchard Room

Babies under a year old and their grownups are welcome to sing songs and learn signs to share with your baby. Please bring a blanket for your baby.

Indoor Family Storytime

Tuesdays, December 6, 13, 20, & 27, 10:30 – 11 a.m., and 11 – 11:30 a.m., Orchard Room

Join us for an interactive storytime featuring songs, stories and fingerplays. Free tickets will be given out 30 minutes prior to the event. A second storytime will be held at 11 a.m. to accommodate those who weren't able to attend the 10:30 storytime.

Winter Writer's Night

Tuesday, December 6, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Orchard Room

This is a casual space for adults and teens to work on their own writing projects. We may have some musical ambience, writing prompts available and time for sharing.

The Whodunit? Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, December 7, 10:15 – 11:30 a.m., Teen Room

We will be discussing [*Extraordinary People*](#) by Peter May.

Teen Game Day

Wednesdays, December 7, 14, 21, & 28, 3 – 4:30 p.m., Teen Room

Hang out and enjoy board games and puzzles with friends. We will also have a TV available for gaming.

World Affairs: Climate Change

Wednesday, December 7, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Orchard Room

Join us for an evening discussion with Mark Z. Jacobsen, Director of the Atmosphere/Energy Program and Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Stanford University.

Meet the Artist Reception

Thursday, December 8, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Orchard Room

Are you enjoying the December Art Show in the Los Altos Library? Meet the artist at our opening reception for a Solo Exhibition of New Works by Matthew Harris.

DIY Wreath Making Workshop

Friday, December 9, 1 – 2 p.m., Orchard Room

We will provide greenery and basic supplies. Please bring a wire clothes hanger or wreath form, as well as any extra decorations you would like, including pinecones, bows and ribbons. Please register.

Puppet Show

Saturday, December 10, 2 – 2:30 p.m., Orchard Room

Fratello Marionettes present “The North Pole Review,” a music-based puppet show. Free tickets will be handed out at the Children’s Desk 30 minutes before the performance. Space is limited.

Author Visit

Saturday, December 10, 5 – 6 p.m.

Lindsay Ellis will discuss her books, [Axiom’s End](#) and [Truth of the Divine](#).

Page Turners Book Club for Grades 4-6

Thursday, December 15, 4 – 5 p.m., Orchard Room

We are discussing [El Deafo](#) by Cece Bell. Please register then stop by the Children’s Reference Desk to check out a copy of the book.

LibraryTECHTalk

Friday, December 16, 4 – 5 p.m., Orchard Room

Learn how to use NovelList Plus Book Recommendations to find your next great read.

Bay Area Games Day

Saturday, December 17, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Orchard Room

Stop by and learn how to play a new board game or bring an old favorite.

Book Bugs Club for 2nd and 3rd Grade Readers

Tuesday, December 20, 4 – 5 p.m., Orchard Room

We will discuss [Please Write in This Book](#) by Mary Amato. Please register at the desk in the Children's Room. Space is limited.

Purrfect Cats with Joan Sparks

Tuesday, December 20, 7 – 8 p.m., Orchard Room

Wildlife photographer Joan Sparks will share photos of big cats, such as lions, tigers, and snow leopards.

Group Games Afternoon

Thursday, December 29, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Orchard Room

Join us for games like How's Yours? Four Corners, Look and Scream, and more. Children in grades K+ are welcomed to attend.

Noon Year's Eve Party

Saturday, December 31, 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m., Orchard Room

We will have music, activities and a countdown at noon. Wear your best outfit for a family photo and use our photo props. Registration is not required.

MILPITAS -- 160 N. Main Street

We Are Not Strangers Here Exhibit

Open during library hours until January 4, 2023, Milpitas Library Courtyard

Explore the unknown and untold stories of Black farmers, rangers and rural residents from the 1849 Gold Rush to now.

Winter Reading Bingo

Starting December 1

Pick up a Bingo card at the Children's Help Desk. Read at least four books to make a bingo, and return your card between January 3-10, 2023.

Homework Help for K-9th Grade

Monday-Thursday through December 15, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Academic coaches from the Bay Area Tutoring Association can provide help in English, history, math and science. No registration required. Walk-ins welcome as space allows.

Spanish Club for Grades K-3

Thursday, December 1, 3:30 – 4:15 p.m., Activity Room

Stop by and create your very own piñata! All materials will be provided, while supplies last.

Knit & Crochet Circle

Fridays, December 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2 – 4 p.m., Conference Room

Stop by and meet other yarn lovers while working on your latest project, get help when you are stuck and share ideas. Instruction available in English, Hindi, Punjabi and Gujarati.

LGBTQ Older Adult Social Space

Friday, December 2, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., Conference Room

Socialize over some board games, card games and snacks.

Winter Magic Show

Saturday, December 3, 11 – 11:45 a.m., Auditorium

Magician Mike Della Penna will delight us with a show inspired by winter.

Elf Interactive Movie Matinee

Saturday, December 3, 2 – 4 p.m., Children’s Activity Room

Join us for this holiday classic with a twist. The movie is rated PG. Common Sense Media recommends this movie for kids ages 7+.

Pup Meet & Greet for Teens

Sunday, December 4, 2 – 3:30 p.m., Children’s Activity Room

Take a study break and de-stress with some furry friends. For ages 12-18.

Tiny Toots Concert

Wednesday, December 7, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m., Auditorium

Join us for a fun concert for toddlers and preschoolers featuring children’s musician Laura Weinbach from Little Folkies.

Chinese Club for Grades K-3

Thursday, December 8, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Auditorium

Come learn and celebrate the Chinese culture with us. We will be doing an activity/craft. Program will be in English and Chinese. All materials will be provided.

Holiday Crafting Fair for Adults

Sunday, December 11, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

Join us for holiday card making, wood slice ornaments and magnets. This program is for people ages 18+.

Holiday Crafts for Grades 2-8

Tuesday, December 13, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Activity Room

Join us to create different holiday decorations. All supplies will be provided. Please register.

Tiny Toots Concert

Wednesday, December 14, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m., Auditorium

Join us for a fun concert for toddlers and preschoolers featuring children's musician Kathleen Rushing, also known as Bingo Schmingo.

Teen Paint Party

Saturday, December 17, 1 – 2:30 p.m., Auditorium

We're hosting a non-guided paint party, meaning there won't be any instructions. We will provide the canvas and paints. Registration required.

Reading Buddies

Saturday, December 17, 2 – 3 p.m., Activity Room

Children in grades K-5 can buddy up with a furry friend and read one-on-one from a favorite book.

Family Movie Matinee

Monday, December 19, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Activity Room

Join us for a showing of *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile*.

2nd & 3rd Grade Book Club

Tuesday, December 20, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Activity Room

We will be discussing [*Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid*](#) by Megan McDonald. Please register and pick up your copy of the book at the Children's Desk.

Special Performance: The Puppet Company

Tuesday, December 20, 7 – 7:45 p.m., Auditorium

The Puppet Company presents a performance of *The Nutcracker*. Space is limited. Free tickets are available at the Children's Help Desk 30 minutes before the show starts.

Noon Year's Eve Party

Saturday, December 31, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Auditorium

We will have music, activities and a countdown at noon.

MORGAN HILL -- 660 W. Main Avenue

Family Storytime

Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m., Outside Lawn

Join us for stories, music, movement and more!

Snack Break

Mondays-Thursdays through December 22, 3 -- 4 p.m.

Free afterschool snacks available for kids ages 0-18 while supplies last. No registration necessary.

Homework Help for K-9th Grade

Monday-Thursday through December 15, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Academic coaches from the Bay Area Tutoring Association can provide help in English, history, math and science. No registration required. Walk-ins welcome as space allows.

Baby Sign Language

Fridays, December 2, 9, & 16, 11:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., Children's Activity Room

Learning to sign provides you with the opportunity to understand your baby's wants and needs before they are able to speak.

Bilingual Family Storytime

Saturdays, December 3, 10, & 17, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m., Outside Lawn

Join us for stories, music, movement and more. Storytimes will be in Spanish and English.

Chanukah Olive Press & Menorah Workshop

Sunday, December 4, 3 – 4:30 p.m., Community Room

Presented by the Chabad South County Jewish Center, learn how to create oil from olives using an authentic oil press, and build your very own menorah. All supplies will be provided.

Registration required.

LEGO Club

Tuesdays, December 6, 13, 20, & 27, 3 – 4 p.m.

Use LEGOs to build whatever you want, or based on our weekly theme. Creations will be displayed until our next meeting. LEGOs available for ages 2+. No registration required.

First Tuesday Knit-In

Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 – 8:45 p.m., Large Program Room

All knitters welcome! New knitters can get advice and assistance while advanced knitters can share their knowledge.

After Dinner Book Club

Tuesday, December 6, 7:30 – 8:45 p.m., Small Program Room

We will be discussing [The Wizard of Oz](#) by L. Frank Baum.

Wreath Decorating

Wednesday, December 7, 3 – 4:30 p.m., Children’s Activity Room

Decorate your own silk wreath. Wreath and supplies are free, while supplies last. One wreath per person.

Mexican Tin Art

Sunday, December 11, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m., Community Room

Join us for a brief history and presentation of the art of Mexican Tin and make a Milagro. Please register.

DIY Holiday Cards

Monday, December 12, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m., Meeting Room

Teens and adults are invited to drop in and create handmade holiday cards. All materials will be supplied, no registration required.

Special Event: Holiday Puppet Show

Thursday, December 15, 10:15 – 11 a.m., Children’s Activity Room

Puppet Art Theatre presents Holiday Little Red Riding Hood.

Special Event: Holiday Puppet Show

Saturday, December 17, 10:15 – 11 a.m., Children’s Activity Room

Puppet Art Theatre presents Holiday Jack and the Beanstalk.

Library Ukulele Society

Tuesday, December 20, 5 – 7 p.m.

Bring your uke and music stand or come to listen and sing along! No registration required.

SARATOGA -- 13650 Saratoga Avenue

Homework Help for K-9th Grade

Monday-Thursday through December 15, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Academic coaches from the Bay Area Tutoring Association can provide help in English, history, math and science. No registration required. Walk-ins welcome as space allows.

Family Storytime for All Ages

Fridays, December 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 11 – 11:30 a.m., Outdoor Patio next to Friends' Café

Tuesdays, December 6, 13, 20, & 27, 11 – 11:30 a.m., Outdoor Patio next to Friends' Café

Join us for stories, rhymes, fingerplays and songs. Because seating is limited, please line up along the wall of displayed art.

Winter Craft: Toys for Pets

Tuesday, December 6, 4 – 5 p.m., Community Room

Stop by and make toys for pets! You can give them to your furry friends, or we can donate them to a local shelter. No registration necessary.

Family Bingo

Friday, December 9, 4 – 5 p.m., Community Room

Our Bingo theme for December is winter. Space is limited, first come, first served.

Trivia Challenge for Grades 3-8

Saturday, December 10, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., Community Room

Test your trivia in topics like Bay Area sports, California animals, famous people, library questions, literary characters and more. Registration is required.

STEM Activity

Tuesday, December 13, 4 – 5 p.m., Community Room

School aged children are invited to compete in candy-related STEM challenges.

Teatime Book Chatter

Thursday, December 15, 1 – 2 p.m.

We will be discussing [*Convenience Store Woman*](#) by Sayaka Murata. Please visit the Adult Reference Desk to register and pick up a copy of the book.

SF Bay Birds Observatory

Saturday, December 17, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., Parking Lot

Learn about the different ducks who live in the Bay Area. While this program is recommended for children 6-12 years old and their families, all are welcomed! No registration required.

WOODLAND – 1975 Grant Road

Joyful Family Storytime

Sunday, December 11, 11:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., Backyard

Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays and fun.

ONLINE EVENTS (Please register online)

Online English Conversation Club

Thursdays, December 1, 8, & 15, 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Meet new friends and practice English together.

Online ESL Book Club

Friday, December 2, 4 – 5 p.m.,

We will be discussing [*The Maid*](#) by Nita Prose.

Virtual Trivia Night

Monday, December 12, 6 – 7 p.m.

Test your holiday movie and music trivia!

Online Bookshare

Tuesday, December 27, 7 – 8 p.m.

Share your latest read and get recommendations for your next great read.