

FRIENDS OF THE RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY



Newsletter by Christine Volker

ACTIVITIES

Summer is Almost Over

As many of you know, during summer, the library is busier than ever delivering programs, trying to reach kids and teens when they're out of school and adults, as always.

The latest results from our elementary schools in Richmond on the California Assessment of Student Progress and Performance shows that on average, across schools, 47% of students are not meeting the English Language Arts/Literacy standard. For our public high schools, outcomes are similar.

These underline how much more work we need to do to prepare our youth for better futures. Library programs are part of that.

Below is a sampling of the library's programs this summer:

50 Story Times took place, with 1,631 children in attendance

In 17 sessions, the Reading Heroes program, aimed at improving children's reading skills, served a total of 321 children. This was accomplished by volunteers contributing 192.5 hours.

250 kids participated in the Summer Reading Game, with drawing prizes by the Friends.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) workshops took place in August with a total of 63 kids who built circuits and towers with provided materials.



Additionally, 776 people enjoyed specialized children’s programs and other activities sponsored by the Friends of the Richmond Public Library.

For adults, a well-attended author talk by Mary Monroe, financial and legal seminars, along with Summer Reading Games for both adults and teens rounded out the offerings.

And, for kids of all ages, two distinguished professors, pictured below, led eager participants on Pokémon Go Safaris!



Sandra Stewart,
Administrative Librarian
and
Janelle Van Hook,
Librarian

Teen Program Award

Añgela Cox, Teen Services Librarian announced that the Teen S.A.T. Workshop garnered a silver award for Best Testing Preparation Program by Parents Press Newspaper’s Contra Costa County voters.

Congratulations, Añgela!

Each year, she puts her heart into preparing young people for success via this program, which the Friends sponsor.

Her letter can be found on the last page.

Member Surveys



What Do you Think?

In May we reached out to members, exploring potential activities and their suggestions. Thank you to all of our respondents!

Here’s the scoop: The response rate was an incredible 40%. This demonstrates that our members are engaged and care about our organization and its mission.

They support book sales, which are a critical fund raising mechanism, they donate books and/or purchase them from us. 64% have read our newsletter, a key in our ongoing communication and community building. 58% have borrowed materials from the library in the past year.

Their views of which goals are most important (voting for more than one was allowable):

Raise funds for the library (69%), build a culture of literacy (41%), act as an advocate for library funding (41%). Their suggestions for programs include: author talks (46%), large book sales (27%), with additional tips on resume writing workshops, special programs like music in the library, doing joint programs with the Richmond Public Library Foundation and the Library Commission.

Current book donation hours were cited by a few members as too narrow and inconvenient. We're working on that.

Thanks to all of our members for their thoughts and suggestions.

News on Libraries

The *New York Times* recently reported on libraries becoming more relevant than ever as they serve the community in more ways.

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/05/nyregion/resurgent-new-york-city-libraries.html?_r=0

Upcoming Events

Friends of the Richmond Public Library Board Meeting: Friday, September 23 at 12 noon

Main Library's Whittlesey Community Room, 325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, 94804

As always, our board meetings are open to members.

Immigration Workshops: Monday, September 26 and Monday, October 3 from 5:00PM to 7:00 PM

Main Library Whittlesey Community Room, 325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, 94804

Have Immigration questions? This is an opportunity to speak to an attorney on a free and confidential basis. Sponsored by the Contra Costa County Bar Association.

Homework Help Program for Kids: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, August 30 to May 31, 2017 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Main Library Whittlesey Community Room, 325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, 94804

September 16 and future Fridays/Saturdays: STEAM Programs for Kids: Call 510-620-6557 Children's Room for more information.

Main Library Whittlesey Community Room, 325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, 94804

LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Be a Homework Help Tutor for kids grades K-6. 8/30/16 to 5/31/17, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Adult volunteers can work from one to four hours per week.

Contact Susan White at:
susan_white@ci.richmond.ca.us and
510-620-6590

City Volunteer Forms available at:
<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/2425/Volunteer-Documents-and-Forms>



MORE OPPORTUNITIES at Friends of the Richmond Public Library

We are seeking volunteers for book sorting. In addition, we welcome those with publicity, social media and technology talent. Email us at FriendsRPLCA@yahoo.com or call 510-620-6555 and leave a message

Don't Forget to Visit!

Our website at: www.richmondlibraryfriends.org

The Friends' Book Nook at the Main Library and Book Carts at West Side and Bayview Branches

Where book Bargains await you!

Only \$1.00 for hard cover, \$.50 paperback.
Payment at the Circulation Desk.

"Grab a Bag" sales at Main Library on first Wednesday of the month (10 items for \$3).
Next "Grab a Bag" is September 7, if construction is complete on the Main Library entrance.

Bayview Branch

5100 Hartnett Ave.

Richmond, CA 94804

510-620-6566



West Side Branch

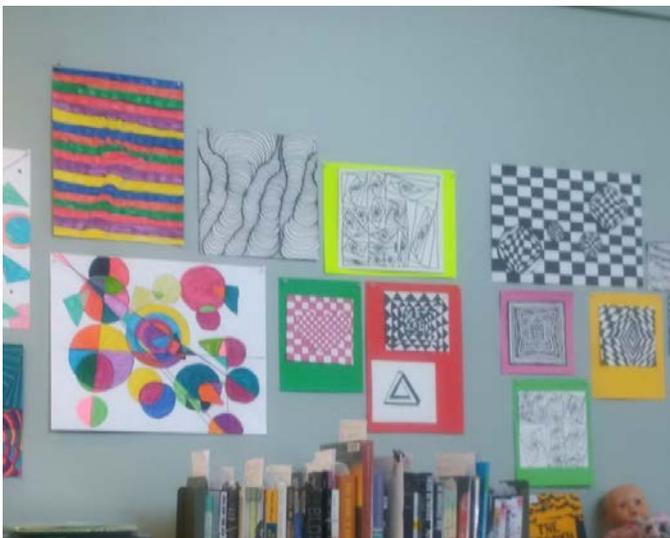
135 Washington Ave.

Richmond, CA 94801

510-620-6567



Children's Art is on the walls of the West Side Branch. The geometry is cool. Check out the talented works in person- we can't do them justice here. Thanks again, to Camille Zulpo and her students.



RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY TEEN SERVICES



August 4, 2016

Dear Friends of the Richmond Public Library:

I would like to update you on developments of the Library Teens S.A.T. Workshop that you have funded for 14 of the 19 years it has been offered.

Parents Press Newspaper annually invites its readers to select the "Best Of" schools, enrichment programs, and family attractions in the east bay. **The Richmond Library Teens S.A.T. Workshop was voted the silver award for Best Testing Preparation Program by Contra Costa County Voters!** The workshop has also been designated as a **Collaborative Program Partner with Richmond Promise**. This means that participants in the workshop fulfill the enrichment component required to qualify for **Richmond Promise Scholarships**.

Over time I have revised to the program to ensure that instruction meets current guidelines and trends. The workshop includes three manuals for students to use, and are theirs to refer to beyond the workshop. It also includes four weeks of live instruction from **Princeton Review instructors**, test-taking strategies, administrant and grading of a pre-test, a post-test, and supplemental online instruction. The Princeton Review instructors allow students to phone them with questions. As a plus, the online instruction is available to students four weeks beyond the workshop.

Currently, I am working with the **Ed Fund** to secure the additional funding needed to offer this workshop, winter 2017. I can't thank all of you enough for your continued support!

Añgela Cox, Teen Services Librarian
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