



Keep Connecting and Exploring Online With San Mateo County Libraries

Dear Community,

In the past weeks, our libraries and dedicated staff have launched and created virtual staff-led events, used 3D printers to create protective gear for healthcare workers, and expanded our online resources and digital titles.

Although we prefer seeing you in person — especially during National Library Week — we're proud to report on the ways we're still there for our community, fostering online exploration and connection. Our buildings are still [closed](#), but you can follow updates below to learn about library news, services, and programs.

Are you enjoying our new initiatives, like virtual events and online resources? We'd love your [feedback!](#)

[Take Our Survey](#)



Online Events Continue to Grow, Connect

Every day, our library staff and eager patrons come together to explore, learn, and connect through virtual staff-led programs. We've expanded to nearly 25 virtual events per week with favorites like music playtime, bilingual storytime, open lab, and drawing lessons. We're continuing to add new programs, too! Stay tuned for new events and services, like one-on-one virtual tech help and online book club!

Follow our blog for [this week](#) and [next week's](#) event schedule, or view our [explore pages](#) for upcoming event posts and archived videos. Thanks to all who have joined us already and we're looking forward to seeing you at our next virtual event.



Library Staff, 3D Printers Make Protective Gear

When our libraries were open, our 3D printers created toys, tools and other household items daily. Now, our 3D printers are busy churning out a vital community service — protective gear for healthcare workers!

With a commitment to our communities and desire to help, library staff began using our 17 3D printers this week to create face shields and ear savers to protect front line medical staff. We've already printed more than 300 ear savers and hope to print and deliver over 600 face shields in the coming weeks. [Read more here.](#)



Online Education (K-12)
Online Education Resources for Children and Families
Distance Learning Resources for Educators
Distance Learning Resources for Students
Distance Learning Resources for Teachers

Resources Available for Teachers, Students

As we shelter in place, teachers, educators and students have sought creative solutions to distance learning. With a wealth of online resources, we have plenty of tools to help them succeed.



Recently, we launched a teacher and student [online resource webpage](#). The page includes a collection of online resources, like online tutoring or book discussion guides, and relevant blogs with helpful information about improving distance learning.



Reading for Hope With the Poet Laureate

We partnered with our County Poet Laureate to launch a new program — Reading for Hope. Poet Laureates will be recording frequent readings of their own poems as well as poem submissions from the community. These "poems of hope" aim to share joy during shelter in place. Check out the [Poet Laureate's website](#) to view a poem reading or to submit a poem of your own.



Expanding Our eCollections

Although our doors are closed, you still have access to boundless library materials! We have been adding more resources and titles to our eCollections, including eBooks, eAudiobooks, streaming movies, and music — titles that are all online and free to access with your library card. Visit [smcl.org](#) to browse our eCollections.



Have a Question? Text Us!

Have a question about accessing online materials or using a digital resource? Getting help from our knowledgeable librarians has never been easier. Recently, we launched a new text messaging service, making real-time support available at the tip of your fingers.

Here's how it works: simply save the number (650) 851-0147, and then text us your library-related questions. We'll send you a friendly, helpful reply as soon as possible. Our texting service is available seven days a week between 9 AM and 5 PM. Follow our [blog](#) for more information.



It's Not Too Late to Return Your Census

Have you filled out the 2020 Census yet? Good news, it's not too late to make sure your voice is heard. You can return your Census via mail, provide information over the phone, or fill it out [online](#).

Filling out the census ensures that yourself, your family, and your community has the resources and funding for critical services it needs for the next 10 years. For more information, visit the [library](#) or [county](#) census help pages.



Stay connected with our family of libraries!

San Mateo County Libraries

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

Open for Exploration™

[smcl.org](#)