



## Community Connection, Staff Picks & More to Explore

Dear Community,

Our staff has been busy coming up with creative ideas and solutions to transform our libraries and communities. Want to hear more from our librarians? Follow us on [Facebook](#) for messages from our staff. We are celebrating this year's theme, *Express Yourself*, for Mental Health Awareness Month and we can't wait to express how much we miss you.

You can also find staff reading recommendations – and a whole bunch of other news like community services, new virtual programs, and online resources – in the message below. Wishing you good health, and plenty of exploration and virtual fun with your library!



### Need Help? Call YES-SMCL

We've launched a new central information phone line with an easy number to remember: 1-833-YES-SMCL (or 1-833-937-7625). Our phone line will be monitored 7 days a week from 9 AM to 5 PM. Our [text-message service](#) and [Get in Touch form](#) are still available, too.



### Supporting Community Connection

To address the digital divide and the vital need to access online learning during shelter in place, we acted immediately to purchase hundreds of additional Wi-Fi hotspots to support our community members and partners. Currently, we have provided more than 500 hotspots. We also extended the range of Wi-Fi at each of our libraries, allowing for internet usage in the parking lots. Tune in to this [wonderful story](#) from KCBS about our efforts to keep our communities connected.



### New Food Service Available For Seniors

The Library system is teaming up with the County to coordinate a Food Availability Taskforce, and we are excited to announce a new resource available to those looking for food assistance. Older residents at high risk from COVID-19 can receive three nutritious meals per day delivered to their home from restaurants across San Mateo County under the new Great Plates Delivered SMC program. This program also provides an avenue for local food providers to continue operations and maintain their employees by helping with this effort. Great Plates Delivered SMC is open for enrollment now. Residents are encouraged to call Aging and Adult Services at (800) 675-8437 and speak to multi-lingual county staff to apply for meal delivery services. Click [here](#) to learn more about this program. For other news and updates on food resources available throughout the County, visit [smc.gov.org/food](http://smc.gov.org/food).



### Join the Hoopla Book Club!

[Monday, May 18 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM](#)

Looking to join a virtual book discussion? Introducing the Hoopla Book Club With Kajah, Paula and Chris. Our first meeting is this Monday beginning at 5:00 PM. We will meet and greet, show you how to access [Hoopla](#), and check out the eBook [The Mountains Sing](#) by Nguyen Phan Que Mai. Next month, we'll discuss the multi-generational family story set during the Vietnam War. Open to all adults 18 and over. Registration is limited to the first 20 participants.

[Register Here](#)



### Expanded Access to eResources and Collections

Many of our eResources have added access to new items for library card holders. [TumbleBook Library](#), a collection of eBooks, videos, talking books, and more, has added three additional databases: [TumbleMath](#) (math picture books); [AudioBookCloud](#) (streaming audiobook collection for readers of all ages), and [RomanceBookCloud](#) (a collection of romance eBooks). Additionally, [Brainfuse HelpNow](#) has extended its tutoring hours from noon to 10 p.m. PT, 7 days a week for students of all ages. View our [full list of online resources](#).

Don't forget — we have multiple platforms with always available, simultaneous use eBook and eAudioBook collections: [Axis360](#) and [OverDrive](#). These titles are always available to you with no holds or wait times. Need a refresher on using these services? Visit our [tutorial page](#).



### Event Spotlight: Mango Languages With a Twist

[Friday, May 22 from 2:00 – 2:30 PM](#)

Did you know that your library card includes free access to [Mango Languages](#), an online language-learning software? In this weekly staff-led program, our language coaches David, Ismael, and Rosemary show you how to use Mango and guide you through a variety of languages, like French and Spanish. Join us on a language-learning adventure! Next Friday, we'll be learning Spanish.



### Homework Hacks From Your Library

Are you still scrambling to fill educational gaps with home learning during shelter in place? Our [educational eResources](#) can help enhance your homeschooling curriculum. Free tools include resources available on all topics, live tutoring, virtual study rooms, research databases and more. Don't forget to bookmark our [student and teacher resource webpage](#) for additional blogs and resources, too.

# Librarian's Corner Staff Picks

Welcome to the Librarian's Corner, where we spotlight weekly recommendations from our staff. These titles are available free through our [online resources](#), like [Kanopy](#), [Axis360](#), and more. Happy exploring!



#### Fiction eBook: [All Systems Red](#) by Martha Wells

A team of scientists and their self-aware droid fend for survival on a distant planet when a neighboring mission goes dark. A perfect science fiction story that's full of fast-paced action and snark. And it's less than 200 pages.

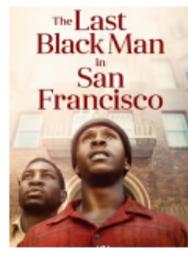
– Jessica, Pacifica Library



#### eAudioBook: [How To Not Hate Your Husband After Kids](#) by Jancee Dunn

Moms, are you feeling tired, exhausted, and overwhelmed during shelter in place? As a parent, we already have so much to juggle in our life; while we absolutely don't want to make our lives harder, it's easy to lose our patience and start a fight with the other adult at home. Join me and listen to Jancee Dunn's suggestions to make our lives better!

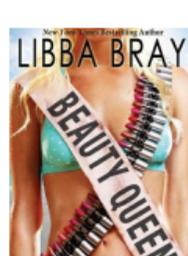
– Min-I, Foster City Library



#### Movie Streaming: [The Last Black Man in San Francisco](#)

This is a homegrown movie with homegrown actors. We follow Jimmie as he goes through a personal journey searching for a home in a changing city. I would recommend this film to anyone looking to understand the effects of gentrification in San Francisco.

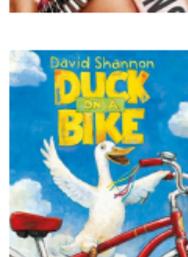
– Carmen, Half Moon Bay Library



#### Young Adult: [Beauty Queens](#) by Libba Bray

Ever wonder what would happen if a plane full of beauty pageant contestants crash landed on a deserted island? This book will give you the answer in an exciting rife full of humor and political intrigue with some pirates thrown in for good measure!

– Alice, Woodside Library



#### Children's Books: [Duck on a Bike](#) by David Shannon

For anyone who has ever wondered what happens when a bike is left in the barnyard, this book with its colorful images will surely bring a smile to you and your child's face as the impossible becomes possible.

– Kathryn, Portola Valley Library

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



Stay connected with our family of libraries!