

High Demand for Summer Learning and Virtual Exploration

Dear Community,

San Mateo County Libraries is in full summer swing with free books, new programs and virtual experiences, and countless ways to have fun with your community library.

As we continue to respond and adjust during COVID-19, we're committed to enriching your summer with safe, creative options for learning, discovery and connection. For more news from your library, including updates on Summer Learning Challenge books, read and explore with us below.



Explore Virtual Experiences

Every week, our libraries host more than 30 staff-led online events. Our new [virtual experiences webpage](#) makes it easy to follow along and build skills, sing, read, and learn! On the webpage, you can browse videos by topic (like storytime and DIY crafts) and by audience. New videos are posted every Monday-Saturday. See you soon for virtual exploration! You can also subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#) to make sure you never miss a program.

Our [Virtual STEAM Camp](#) is in high gear! New events air twice a day, five days per week at 11:00 AM for early learners and 1:00 PM for elementary ages. Next week, we'll be building volcanic landscapes, obstacle courses, pool races and so much more.



High Demand for Summer Learning Books

Our free [Summer Learning Challenge](#) books continue to be available first come, first served during [Curbside Pickup](#) hours – no appointment necessary.

We've seen an unprecedented demand for them this year, and have run out on high-demand days. We're working hard to safely increase availability and get more books to our communities.

The convenient grab-and-go books are arranged by age group and available curbside. Happy reading!



Watch Janelle Brown's Author Conversation

Last week, we hosted our first virtual author event with best-selling suspense author [Janelle Brown](#). If you couldn't view this engaging conversation live, don't fret – the [recording](#) is available on our YouTube channel for you to watch at your convenience. In conversation with Lisa Meltzer of the California Writers Club, Brown discussed her new novel, a variety of topics like writing during shelter in place, and answered audience questions. Brown's most recent novel, *Pretty Things*, is being developed into a TV series starring Nicole Kidman.



Great Plates Delivered Food Program Extended

The county's recent food assistance program, [Great Plates Delivered SMC](#), has been extended through July 10. The Great Plates Delivered program matches older adults at high risk from COVID-19 with local restaurants to provide three free nutritious meals a day. The program helps older, at-risk populations to stay home and healthy, while also helping local businesses continue operations. For more information about the program and eligibility, visit [smc.gov.org/food](#), call (800) 675-8437, or view program fact sheets available in [English](#), [Español](#), and [Tagalog](#).



Introducing Book, Please!

Book, Please! is a new virtual program presented as a series of thematic book talks. Join our staff for a conversation about books you have read or heard about in a casual online setting. Our first meeting is Wednesday, July 8 at 4:00 PM and the theme is social justice. Please [register](#) in advance to participate.

Other Book Club Reminders:

- [Virtual Family Book Club](#): Our next open meeting is Friday, July 10 at noon to discuss *Judy Moody* by Megan McDonald
- [Hoopla Book Club](#): Our next open meeting is Saturday, July 11 at 4 PM to discuss *The Muralist* by B.A. Shapiro.



Conquer Your Reading List With Curbside Pickup

Have you used [Curbside Pickup](#) yet? This safe, contactless service is available 3-7 PM on Tuesdays, and 10-2 PM Thursdays and Saturdays. To participate, simply: place your holds [online](#); wait until you receive confirmation that your items are ready; schedule your pickup; and come during your appointment! If Curbside Pickup is not an option for you, please contact our customer care team and we'll work to identify an alternate arrangement.

Just a friendly reminder, our bookdrops are open at all locations! Returned items are held in quarantine; thank you for your patience during the extended waiting period before items are checked off your record. We hope you are enjoying your library materials!

Staff Picks

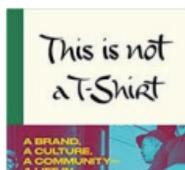
What great titles have our staff been reading or listening to lately? Find out here in our Staff Picks section! These titles are available free through our [online resources](#) or in print through Curbside Pickup. Happy exploring!



eBook/Book Children: [What Can A Citizen Do?](#) by Dave Eggers, art by Shawn Harris

This simple story with beautiful art shows a collective of kids working together. This is a great introduction for smaller children to the concept of community and the fact that anyone, even a child, can make an impact. Available in print and digitally through [Hoopla](#).

Deidre, San Carlos Library



Nonfiction Adult: [This Is Not a T-Shirt](#) by Bobby Hundreds

Bobby Kim is the founder and owner of The Hundreds, a popular Los Angeles streetwear brand that he started after dropping out of law school. This book talks about growing up in a traditional Asian-American household and not fitting in, the ups-and-downs of owning a successful clothing brand, and how streetwear culture influenced fashion over the past couple of decades.

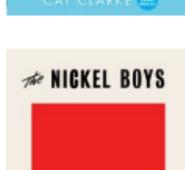
Kenny, East Palo Alto Library



eBook Tweens: [The Pants Project](#) by Cat Clarke

Starting middle school is stressful enough, but Liv's new school has something special: a uniform dress code where girls must wear knee-length skirts and boys wear pants. But Liv knows that he's a boy... so what can he do? A quick, entertaining, and inclusive read for tweens and middle schoolers.

Jenna, Foster City Library



eAudioBook Adult: [The Nickel Boys](#) by Colson Whitehead, narrated by JD Jackson

After finding himself in the wrong place at the wrong time, Elwood Curtis is unfairly sentenced to a juvenile reformatory school called Nickel Academy. Loosely based on the real Florida School for Boys, this book examines the atrocities that took place at these types of reform schools and the effort made to erase the lives of boys who were forced to enter those walls. [Available](#) in multiple formats.

Carmen, Half Moon Bay Library



eBook Adult Fiction: [If I Never Met You](#) by Mhairi McFarlane

If you're looking for a sweet contemporary romance, try *If I Never Met You*. When Laurie's longtime boyfriend breaks up with her, she's humiliated and agrees to pretend to seriously date the office playboy, who needs a steady girlfriend to protect his professional integrity. eBook available through [Axis360](#).

Jessica, Pacifica Libraries

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

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SANCHEZ | PACIFICA SHARP PARK | PORTOLA VALLEY | SAN CARLOS | WOODSIDE | BOOKMOBILE

Open for Exploration™

[smcl.org](#)

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