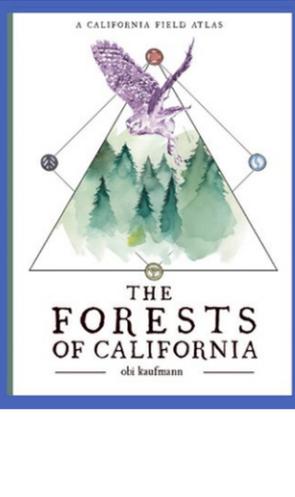




Author Talk With
Obi Kaufmann
Tuesday, December 8 at 6 PM



Dear Community,

Mark your calendars for the next virtual [author event](#) with San Mateo County Libraries! On Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 6:00 PM, we're hosting a presentation with painter-poet Obi Kaufmann, who will share from his new book, *The Forests of California*. This online event will be introduced by Library JPA Board Member and Atherton Mayor, [Rick DeGolia](#).

Before becoming a naturalist and illustrator, Kaufmann grew up in the East Bay, exploring Mount Diablo to map its creeks, oak forests, and sage mazes. Fittingly, his most recent work guides readers through the Golden State's forested lands with signature watercolor paintings and trail maps. His work presents "a profoundly original version of nature in the twenty-first century."

For those who find inspiration from nature and marvel California's backcountry, be sure to [register](#) in advance for this captivating author talk!

[Discover More](#)



Giving Thanks

Although our gatherings may be smaller this year, Thanksgiving is still a time to reflect on the things we're thankful for. At San Mateo County Libraries, one of our librarians is thankful for our language-learning eResources and digital cooking magazines! Read her [blog](#) to give thanks with a reading list for all ages.

Due to the holiday, our [Curbside Services](#) and [Customer Care](#) will be unavailable Thursday, Nov. 26 through Saturday, Nov. 29. Additionally, our [family meal service](#) at [East Palo Alto Library](#) and [Half Moon Bay Library](#) will be unavailable this week but will return Tuesday, Dec. 1. Beginning Dec. 5, Half Moon Bay Library's Saturday meal program will change to 11:30 AM while all other meal program times remain unchanged. We're always open for exploration online at [smcl.org](#)!

[Read More](#)



Don't Miss the Medicare Open Enrollment Period

The annual Medicare Open Enrollment Period for existing beneficiaries to join or switch their Medicare Advantage or Prescription Drug Plan runs until Monday, Dec. 7. Join our [virtual presentation](#) on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 7:00 PM to [learn more](#) about your health insurance options for 2021. This free event will be led by a Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) Community Educator.

[Register Now](#)



Staying Safe Over the Holidays

Looking for advice about the safest way to celebrate the holidays within your household? According to [San Mateo County Health](#), the safest gathering is one that is a small, stable group that meets outdoors for a short duration and uses face coverings, distancing and other safety measures. [Read their article](#) for more guidelines or follow them on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) for real-time updates on county health news and safety resources.

[Learn More](#)



Express Your Creativity With Virtual Crafts

Looking for ways to stretch your creativity and unwind? Join us virtually for [Art Journaling](#) on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 6:30 PM to paint colorful pears and learn about Art Crayons. Or, if you're more of a crafter, join the very first [Craft Circle](#) on Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 6:00 PM to show off your knitting, sewing or other fiber craft projects you've created for your loved ones!

[Register Now](#)

Explore More

Explore, learn and connect at our [virtual library programs](#)! You might also be interested in these exciting, upcoming events.

Story Café With Carol Park

Monday, Nov. 30 • All Day

Carol Park, a Redwood City resident, shares her short story "Sticking It Out", which explores the consequences when you can't let go.

Citizenship Learning Circle | Grupo de Aprendizaje de Ciudadanía

Monday, Nov. 30 • 3:00 PM | Lunes, 30 de noviembre • 3:00 PM

Learn about the process of applying for citizenship and study for the English and Civics exam in a learning circle. *En este grupo de aprendizaje, aprenderemos sobre el proceso de solicitud de ciudadanía y estudiaremos para el examen de inglés y educación cívica.*

LGBTQ+ Book Club

Monday, Nov. 30 • 7:00 PM

Join us to discuss *Since I Laid My Burden Down*, Brontez Purnell's novel of a black, queer man from Oakland who returns home to Alabama for a funeral.

Interactive Musical Storytime With Angela and Ashley

Tuesday, Dec. 1 • 3:30 PM

Missing live storytime at the library? Join Ashley and Angela to hear your favorite songs and stories from the comfort of your own home!

Tech Café: Virtual Private Networks (VPNs)

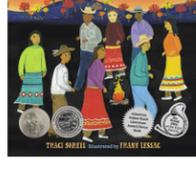
Tuesday, Dec. 1 • 4:00 PM

Have you wondered how to use a Virtual Private Network? We'll give you a brief introduction to VPNs, including how to select a VPN you can trust.

[Explore All Events](#)

Community Picks

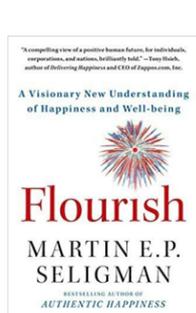
Our Community Picks' titles are available digitally through [online resources](#) or in print through [Curbside Pickup](#). Happy exploring!



Children's Non-Fiction eBook: *We Are Grateful* by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Frané Lessac

This colorful children's book talks about the meaning and importance of the word "otsaliheliga" — a word that Cherokee people use that means "we are grateful." This book details the many ways that Cherokee people show gratitude towards nature, the changing seasons and to their loved ones. Available on [Hoopla](#) as an eBook and eReadalong with sounds and music!

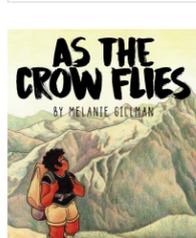
Kenny, East Palo Alto Library



Adult Non-Fiction: *Flourish* by Martin Seligman

Seligman provides a brief history to the beginning of Positive Psychology and further enforces the benefits of this form of therapy by sharing results from his studies. Then, he challenges the reader to try Positive Psychology practices in their lives to see if they can decrease unhappiness and begin to flourish.

Theresa, San Carlos Library



Young Adult Graphic Novel: *As the Crow Flies* by Melanie Gillman

As the only black, queer camper at a girl's summer camp, 13-year-old Charlie doesn't feel like a part of the group. But she finds a friend in Sydney, who helps her expand the camp's narrow definition of what it means to come of age as a woman.

Alice, Portola Valley Library and Woodside Library



Streaming: *Meru*

Three renowned climbers navigate nature's harshest elements and their own complicated inner demons to ascend Mount Meru, the most technically complicated and dangerous peak in the Himalayas. Available on [Kanopy](#).

Maureen, Half Moon Bay Library



Children's Fiction: *Little Red* by Bethan Woollvin

A twist on the classic story, Little Red Riding Hood. On her way to Grandma's house, Little Red meets a wolf, which might scare some little girls, but not this one. She knows just what the wolf is up to, and she's not going to let him get away with it.

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

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](#)

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