



OFF THE SHELF

OCTOBER EDITION - 2011

DECCA & FRIENDS BOOK SALE: JESSICA MITFORD'S PERSONAL LIBRARY

Author: Kathleen Hirooka

Earlier this year, the Bookmark Bookstore received a call from the family of author/activist Jessica ("Decca") Mitford and Robert Treuhaft to pick up a donation of over 30 books from their personal library to support the Friends of the Oakland Public Library. Manager Bob Frey took the call and asked volunteer Ed Moore to drive to their former home on Regent Street in Oakland to retrieve this one-of-a-kind gift.

Jessica Mitford (1917-1996), whose life began as a member of a prominent British aristocratic family, ran away to the Spanish Civil War with a nephew of Winston Churchill, immigrated to the United States where she joined the Communist Party, and became best known as a muckraking journalist upon the publication of *The American Way of Death*. She was a long-time resident of Oakland, where she and husband Treuhaft worked tirelessly on labor, civil rights, and other causes. She was also a supporter of the Oakland Public Library, on whose behalf she appeared as a featured speaker just two years before her death.

Customers will have a unique chance to purchase titles donated from this private library beginning November 2, 2011 at The Bookmark Bookstore, 721 Washington Street (in Old Oakland). Related books by or about Ms. Mitford and her famous (or infamous) family will also be sold. Decca and Bob knew everybody in progressive circles in the latter half of the twentieth century, and the majority of these works contain personal dedications to one or both by the likes of Simon Schama, John Kenneth Galbraith, Adam Hochschild, Todd Gitlin, Mary Mackey, Agnes deMille, Art Hoppe, and Herb Caen, who noted that they were "*two of the eternal joys of my misbegotten life. Love always & thanks for being a bulwark (Bulwark? Not too sexy, eh?)*". Proceeds from the sale of all books benefit the Oakland Public Library.

In conjunction with this special sale, watch for two free related programs:

Decca & Friends, The Personal Collection of Jessica Mitford will display selected titles from this gift from October 1 – 31 at the Main Library, 125 14th Street.

Jessica Mitford: Oakland "Housewife" will feature a reading and talk by local author Peter Y. Sussman from *Decca: The Letters of Jessica Mitford* (2006), which he edited. Sussman will provide background on Mitford's colorful life, with special emphasis on her history in Oakland and contributions to this city. Copies of his book will be available for sale and signing afterwards. This event will take place on Thursday, October 27, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library's Bradley C. Walters Auditorium, 125 14th Street.

For more info about the author event, contact the Main Library at (510) 238-3222. For more info about the sale, contact The Bookmark Bookstore, at (510) 444-0473.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of members will be held on Wednesday, November 16th at 5:15 p.m., at Main Library, 125 14th St. All FOPL members are invited! The main item of business is the election of directors.

The following individuals have been nominated to serve as directors for a two-year term:

Ronile Lahti
Ellen Moyer
Sophie Souroujon
Judy Toll
Julie Waldman
Winifred Walters
Brook Vanderford
Evan Zubritsky

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: TUTORS
FOR THE SECOND START ADULT
LITERACY PROGRAM**

Author: Amy Prevedel, OPL

Would you like to help make a powerful, positive difference in another person's life—and in your own? When you become a volunteer tutor in the Oakland Public Library's adult literacy program you can do just that.

The Second Start program matches volunteer tutors one-to-one with adult literacy students. Tutoring pairs meet weekly at libraries throughout Oakland at times that are convenient for both the student and the tutor. They work on the student's individual learning goals. Improved reading skills can make a world of difference for adults in their families, workplaces and communities.

This library program offers a free, 18-hour training workshop that provides volunteers the tools they need to succeed as a tutor. Here's what some recent tutor training graduates had to say:

"I have attended a lot of trainings and workshops and staff development over lots of years. Your training is an A+ and so are you. (I know it's not about the grade!)"

"I had a great experience and learned a lot."

"Organization of materials, presentation, group and individual work were all top notch!"

Our next tutor training workshop begins on October 15th. For more information or to sign up, please contact Kelly Frasier at:

510-238-3432

or

kfrasier@oaklandlibrary.org



You, too, can be a proud graduate of Second Start's tutor training workshop. Join us to learn a lot, have vast amounts of fun, and help your community by becoming a volunteer adult literacy tutor.

Photos Courtesy: Oakland Public Library

BOOKMARK BOOKSTORE FALL SALE

The Fall 2011 Friends of the Oakland Public Library Book Sale is October 6 - 9, 2011.

The "Members' First Choice" Sale Day is:
Thursday, October 6th – 50% off for FOPL members.

And for all book lovers:
30% OFF – Friday, October 7
40% OFF – Saturday, October 8
50% OFF – Sunday, October 9

The Bookmark Bookstore is located at 721 Washington Street in Old Oakland. Sale hours are 10:30 to 5:30 every day. For information, please call (510) 444-0473 or visit www.thebookmarkbookstore.org.



FOPL GRANTS: LIBRARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to recipients of the 2011-2012 Friends of the Oakland Public Library Scholarship Awards! The FOPL scholarship program supports OPL staff enrolled in an accredited Master of Library and Information Science program. Award recipients are selected by the OPL Staff Scholarship Committee in a competitive process. FOPL congratulates six OPL employees, each of whom receives a \$500 cash scholarship.

Kevin Coleman, Rockridge Branch
Frank Djeng, Main Library
Sally Engelfried, 81st Avenue Branch
Ally Hack, Rockridge Branch
Autumn Sullivan, Eastmont Branch
Margaret Rodriguez, Children's Room – Main Library

The FOPL Scholarship Program, now in its 13th year, is made possible by FOPL's annual grants to the Oakland Public Library.



Over 30 FOPL members and friends enjoyed an afternoon at the Oakland Coliseum for the August 13th game: Oakland A's vs. Texas Rangers. FOPL and the A's teamed up to raise funds for the library, with 50% of all ticket proceeds sold through the program going to support the library. Keep an eye out for this event next year, and for other FOPL sponsored fundraisers.



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- ◆ Ellen Moyer
- ◆ Sophie Souroujon
- ◆ Julie Waldman
- ◆ Winifred Walters
- ◆ Evan Zubritsky

If your membership has expired,
PLEASE RENEW NOW!

More ways to support the Friends...

- Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization - 800 members strong, dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library.
- Donate your gently-used books, CDs and DVDs to the Bookmark Bookstore. Call (510) 444-0473 for more information.
- Do you have a few hours per month? Call (510) 444-0473 or visit us online at www.fopl.org to learn more about our volunteer opportunities.
- Donate items needed to improve Bookmark Bookstore operations:
 - ➔ Sturdy work table, approximately
 - ➔ 3 by 5 feet (up to 4 X 6)
 - ➔ Hanging sign "Bookmark Bookstore"
 - ➔ Color Printer w/Scanner

JOIN US

Yes, I want to show my support for the Friends of the Oakland Public Library!

Enclosed is my check payable to FOPL for \$ _____

____ New (1 year membership) ____ Renewal (1 year membership)

____ Donation (\$ _____ in addition to my membership dues)

Supporting Membership Levels:

____ \$1000 Book Angel Name(s) _____

____ \$500 Bibliophile _____

____ \$250 Book Conservator Address _____

____ \$100 Book Worm City/Zip _____

____ \$50 Book Friend Gift in Honor/Memory of _____

Basic Membership Levels:

____ \$35 Family/Household

____ \$25 Individual

____ \$15 Senior (65+)/Student

Email _____
(Sign me up for **email** notices of Bookmark Bookstore news)

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