

More Library at Your Library! Expanded Library Hours Starting April 1

by Matt Berson, OPL Public Information Officer

OPL is expanding hours at its 16 neighborhood branches, the Main Library, the African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO), and the Oakland Tool Lending Library starting Monday, April 1, 2019.

The Main Library (125 14th St.) and 81st Avenue Branch (1021 81st Ave.) will be open seven days a week; 14 neighborhood branches will be open six days per week and until 8 p.m. two nights per week. In addition, all library locations will now be open Mondays.

This marks the first time OPL has increased its operating hours since 2004. The new hours are a result of the June 2018 passage of Measure D, which Oakland voters approved handily with 76.9% of the vote. Oakland Public Library locations will be open a total of 288.5 additional hours per week.

For current hours at all of the branches, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org/MoreLibrary.

MORE LIBRARY AT YOUR LIBRARY

THANKS TO MEASURE D



www.oaklandlibrary.org



@oaklibrary

#MoreLibrary

Upcoming Events @ The Bookmark | 721 Washington Street, Oakland

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 4-7PM

PRE-SALE CELEBRATION

Join us for light refreshments to celebrate the 2018-2019 Mini-Grant Recipients.

DID YOU KNOW...?

The semi-annual sales @ The Bookmark account for nearly 7% of the total annual store revenue.

Come check out the great deals on books, DVDs, CDs, LPs, sheet music and more!

THURSDAY, APRIL 11-SUNDAY, APRIL 14

SEMI-ANNUAL SALE

Friends of the OPL Members receive 50% off every purchase on Thursday, 4/11 only. They and all other book lovers receive:

30% off Friday, April 12

40% off Saturday, April 13

50% off Sunday, April 14

Connect with Friends of the OPL on Social Media!



BookmarkBookstore.FOPL



FOPL_Bookmark



FOPL_Bookmark

It's Official: Jamie Turbak Named Oakland Public Library Director

After serving as interim director since March 2018, following Gerry Garzón's retirement and a national search, the Oakland Public Library confirmed Jamie Turbak's appointment as Director of Library Services on Friday, January 18. She becomes OPL's 13th director since the City incorporated public library services in 1878.

Turbak graduated from UC Berkeley with a B.A. in English and earned her Master of Library Science from San Jose State. She began her career as an on-call library aide at Berkeley Public Library. In 2001, she joined OPL as an entry-level, temporary part-time Library Assistant and has worked her way up through the system as a Children's Librarian, Branch Manager, Supervising Librarian for Children's Services and the Main Branch, Administrative Librarian, Associate Director and, most recently, as Interim Director of Library Services.

Turbak will focus her attention to the **expansion of library services in 2019**, with the goal of developing system-wide policies and services that are most user-friendly for library patrons. Oaklanders recently passed **Measure D**, a \$75 parcel tax that will generate an estimated \$10



million per year for library services and operations. "This is an incredibly exciting time for the Oakland Public Library and it is a deep honor to be the Director of Library Services in this vibrant city," said Turbak. "In 2019, we plan to have all library locations open more hours, improve our web-based services, embark on new partnerships with community organizations, and implement policy changes that will make the library more user-friendly. I'm proud to work alongside passionate, committed, and focused library staff who drive improvements in our service each and every day."

Get to Know Your Grants

by Sara DuBois, OPL Coordinator, Grants and Volunteers

For the third year in row, the Friends of the OPL offered mini-grants (up to \$2,000) to fund the implementation of a new library service or program proposed by library staff. At their meeting in early January, the Friends of OPL Board reviewed 22 creative and inspiring applications.

After careful consideration, the following 13 projects were approved for funding:

Afterschool Hackerspace at Multiple Locations

American Sign Language Trainings for Staff

at Multiple Locations

Chávez Reading Buddies at [César E. Chávez Branch](#)

Computer Skills Workshops at Multiple Locations

Conflict Resolution Workshops at [Brookfield Branch](#)

Cooking Community & Culture at [Asian Branch](#)

Fathers Support Group Series at [81st Ave Branch](#)

Healthy Meals, Healthy Families at Multiple Locations

Junior Carpenters Club at [Eastmont Branch](#)

OF/BY/FOR ALL Justice-Impacted Youth

at Multiple Locations

STEAM Family Nights at [Main Library](#)

Teen Advisory/Youth Leadership Field Trips

at Multiple Locations

What's Cookin' at West at [West Oakland Branch](#)

Library staff are excited to have the funding for these projects, and we all look forward to sharing stories and photos from these programs in future issues of this newsletter.

Each year the library submits a "wish list" of grant requests to the Friends of the Oakland Public Library. This list comprises projects that library staff would like to pursue, but which simply aren't possible without extra funding. The library is very grateful for the possibilities that these grants create. For more information, please contact Grants Coordinator Sara DuBois at sdubois@oaklandlibrary.org or (510) 238-6572.

Email Your Support For a New Main Library

Email Planner Alicia Parker at aparker@oaklandca.gov and/or your **Oakland City Council Member** and tell them why you think including a new Main Library in the Downtown Development Plan matters to Oakland! Add OPLadvocates@gmail.com to your email and we'll bring your message with us **when we visit City Council!**

OPL Advocates and the Quest for a New Main Library

by OPL Advocates

The City of Oakland recently released its Draft Downtown Development Plan—and guess what's missing from the city's vision of our future?

A new Main Library.

The Downtown Plan is an opportunity to guide development with our vision for our city. It is our opportunity to stake a claim to what we are as a community—and a city.

The plan projects more than 65,000 new residents and 40,000 new units in the downtown. The Downtown Plan emphasizes culture, the arts, affordability and equity, but fails to recognize the role the Main Library plays as an existing resource addressing all of these needs. Serving patrons of all ages, linguistic groups, and education levels, the library is a great equalizer, and a space where, in our diversity, we create a shared public culture.

The current Main Library was built in 1950. While it is heavily used and much loved, the role and services provided by the library have changed. The building is out of room and outdated for current public uses. It leaks and is burdened with a number of failing systems. It offers only one small space for public programming, which is shared by children's, teen and adult library services. **The space is already inadequate for the high usage it enjoys, and the projected surge of population in the city will overwhelm it.**

The Main offers many resources and programs that help people lead healthier lives. Examples include giving out **free flu shots**; holding **classes on infant health**; presenting **yoga classes** for all ages; serving **free lunches** to people 18 and younger during the summer months when schools are closed, and holding open hours with VA representatives who **help veterans find**



the health resources they need. The Main Library's **Second Start Adult Literacy Program** helps adults improve their reading skills. The **Children's Room and TeenZone** at the Main Library provide curriculum support and a safe place to go after school.

With the renaissance of the downtown, we have the opportunity to commit to a once-in-a-generation institutional project: a new Main Library. A 21st-century facility with increased space can serve Oakland's diverse and growing population. If you agree that Oakland should plan for a new Main Library that meets the needs of our rapidly changing city, please add your voice NOW to the Downtown Plan process. See the Oakland Downtown Specific Plan here: www.oaklandca.gov/topics/downtown-oakland-specific-plan

OPL ADVOCATES ARE an informal coalition of volunteer advocacy groups working to support Oakland Public Library. These include the Friends of the Oakland Public Library; the City of Oakland Library Advisory Commission; Youth Leadership Council; Teen Advisory Boards; Branch Friends groups; Save Oakland Libraries; OPL staff, and patrons.

Connect with OPL Advocates on Social Media!



OPLAdvocates



opladvocates



OPLadvocate

2019 Summer Reading Programs

by Matt Berson, OPL Public Information Officer

The library's Summer Programs start early this year, so don't miss them! Starting **Saturday, June 1**, you can sign up for Kids, Teen, and Adult programs. And, while supplies last, in-person registrants of all ages will receive a special gift: four ticket vouchers to a select Oakland A's home game!



OPL 2017-18 Annual Report

The previous fiscal year changed the future of the Oakland Public Library. Check out everything we accomplished and learn what's in store moving forward in our **2017-18 Annual Report**, available online at www.oaklandlibrary.org/AnnualReport. Many thanks to the Friends of the OPL for once again supporting the design of this year's Annual Report!

2019 Open Spaces Program Grants | Kenneth Rainin Foundation

by Ynez Arce

After a panel of jurors reviewed public art projects from 10 finalists, **two of the five grants awarded went to OPL partnerships**. In total, the Foundation awarded \$625,000 for these community-based public art projects.

The OPL-partnered grantees are:

Commons Archive – [Kala Art Institute](#), the [Golden Gate Library](#) and lead artist [Sue Mark](#) will foster connections across race, generation and class to address the dissolution of neighborhood networks by displacement and gentrification. They will engage residents of North Oakland's Golden Gate neighborhood, the birthplace of the Black Panthers, to create a collective memory bank through citizen history trainings, community mapping and restorative justice listening sessions. The stories will be translated into projections and banners displayed along San Pablo Avenue.

Heroes of Unity – The [Spanish-Speaking Unity Council of Alameda County](#) and the [Oakland Public Library](#) will partner with lead artists, [Sergio de la Torre](#) and the [Collective Action Studio's Justin Hoover and Chris Treggiari](#), to create a portrait of the Bay Area immigrant



community. Youth and adult artist mentorship teams will bring mobile print-making laboratories to six events in Oakland. The public will be empowered to create art that documents personal and family stories of migration, relocation, identity and citizenship.

For more information about the Kenneth Rainin Foundation and the other 2019 Open Spaces Program grantees, go to krfoundation.org.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS!

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2:30PM | [Main Library](#)

**FRANKLINA C. GRAY: THE GRAND TOUR, A BOOK CLUB
WITH THE CAMRON-STANFORD HOUSE**

Ever wondered about the lives of Oakland's Victorian residents?
Take a peek into the travels of Franklina C. Gray through her own writings and pages from her scrapbook.

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 10:15AM - 11:30AM | [Main Library](#)

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION

Come learn about volunteer opportunities (for ages 18+) with the library, the Friends,
and other important community programs.

APRIL 20, MAY 18, JUNE 15, JULY 20, 1-5PM | [Rockridge Branch](#)

WRITERS' SUPPORT AND CRITIQUE GROUP: ALL WRITERS WELCOME!

Calling all authors! Bring 15 copies of up to 5 pages of any prose for on-site reading/discussion with fellow writers.
You're also welcome to come empty-handed.

2019 Youth Poet Laureate Program | New YPL to be Announced in June!

by Ynez Arce



Applications for the 2019 Youth Poet Laureate were submitted in February and the finalists will be announced in April. To enter, applicants had to be Oakland residents, between the ages of 13 and 18, and be able to serve as Laureate for the program year, June 2019 - June 2020. Poems are judged

based on *Content, Craft, and Voice*. Final round poets are also judged on *Leadership and Performance*. The 2019-2020 Youth Poet Laureate will be announced at the Oakland Museum of California on **Friday, June 8** at the First Friday evening program.

In the meantime, don't miss the Finalists performing, with the judges, on Friday, April 19 at 7pm at Pegasus Books, 5560 College Ave, Oakland. All the details are here: www.oaklandlibrary.org/yplatpegasus

Last but not least, big thanks and kudos to the current Youth Poet Laureate, **Leila Mottley**. Leila will be honored at an Oakland City Council meeting in April. Details are still TBD but in the meantime, you can see Leila performing her work on YouTube:

www.oaklandlibrary.org/lovepoem

For more details on this and other Youth Poet Laureate news, go to the YPL website:

www.oaklandlibrary.org/oaklandypl

Welcome Pooneh Koohyar to the Friends of the OPL Board!

Pooneh Koohyar joined The Friends of the OPL Board in January 2019.

"As a child, newly immigrated to the United States, I spent many hours in local libraries, where I felt welcomed and included by every single librarian I met. Many years later, wondering what to do with my two little boys, we found the refuge in Storytime at our local library. This ignited my sons' passion for reading books and hanging out at libraries. I believe libraries are sanctuaries where people in the community can gather and access information despite color, language, socioeconomic status, and race. I strongly believe in promoting the benefits of a Friends of the OPL membership and am joyous for the extended library hours starting in April!" #morelibrary



Books & Media Recommendations from the Friends of the OPL Board

Recommended by Sheila McCormick

Becoming Bulletproof - Documentary about Zeno Mountain Farm (zenomountainfarm.com), an organization that has a camp where disabled and non-disabled actors work together to create a movie. Inspiring and funny - not to be missed. DVD available at OPL.

Recommended by Julie Waldman

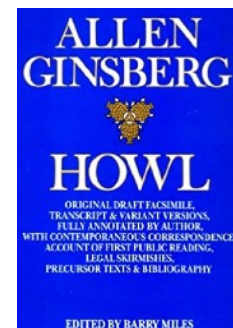
Train Dreams by Denis Johnson - A beautiful novella by a National Book Award winner, a mini-epic about the American West. The narrator is perfect! Available as audiobook from [Hoopla](#) and the [OPL's Overdrive collection](#).

Browse our Amazon & eBay Listings!

amazon 1500+ books and media listed here:
www.amazon.com/shops/the_bookmark_bookstore

[Howl by Allen Ginsberg](#)

Signed 1986 first facsimile edition.
Currently listed at \$175.



ebay 100+ book and media listed here:
www.ebay.com/usr/friends_opl



[The David Lance Goines Poster Book - 1978](#)

Posters from 1971-1978.
Softcover, oversized book.
Currently listed at \$30.

Found at The Bookmark

by Sheila McCormick

I checked out and read all the Flicka, Ricka, Dicka books (and the ones about the boys, Snipp, Snapp, Snurr) from my hometown library in Illinois, circa 1960. So what a treat to find one of them at the Bookmark, 1940 edition, for only \$3. Each book has a moral: this one's is "help those in need, even if your new dresses get dirty - but next time, wear your overalls."



Interested in Volunteering?

The Bookmark needs YOU! Please visit, call, or email for more details:

721 Washington Street, Oakland | (510) 444-0473 | bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com

Membership News: We are Proud of Our 80% Renewal Rate!

by Winifred Walters

Thanks largely to our members' renewals and referrals, 2018 was a record year for membership and we are proud to have sustained a **80% renewal rate!** Contributing to our success, we signed up **201 New Members** in 2018. **43%** of those new members signed up during a visit to the The Bookmark. Yet another great reason to bring a friend and head to the store!

Did you know....?

63% of all FOPL Members contribute at a level of **\$50 or more**

- BookFriends (\$50-\$99) make up 34% of those members
- Bookworms (\$100-\$249) make up 44% of those members

These numbers are incredible and a testament to the commitment and support for our libraries by Friends of the OPL members. **THANK YOU** and keep it up!

Great Gift Idea!

Buy a Friends of the Oakland Public Library Membership! Your friends should be Friends of the OPL too! Annual dues start at \$25 (Full-time students and seniors, age 65+, can join for \$15). See all the ways to join at fopl.org/join

Giving

- In memory of Herbert L. Mager, Jr., from Belinda Sifford, Kelly Pisarri, Anonymous
- In memory of Gaye Lenahan from Rita Howard, Doreen Herbruger, Moira Nichols, Florence Higgins, Brian O'Konski
- In memory of Glenda Sue Robinson from Anonymous, Betsy Collard, Don Tatzin and Ellen Reintjes, Christine Prusiner, Nicki Sherwood, and Marilyn Robinson
- In memory of Lucy Black Creighton, Winifred Walter's mother, from Rita Howard, Judy and Bob Toll, Deborah Kahane-Rego
- In memory of Missy Ida Fried from Suzanne Fried
- In memory of Pat Lupoff from Anonymous
- In memory of Diane Lowe from Anonymous
- In memory of Maureen Rinne from Susan Fox
- For the Second Start Adult Literacy program in memory of Luella Edmonds, from her family and friends: Judy Martin, Dino O'Neal, Martha McWoodson, Doris Jackson, William and Christine Sinn, Marilyn Cleveland, Barbara Oseroff, Carrie Sachs, Gibby Cattanach, Paula Wagner, and D.R. Gibson
- In honor of Robert and Helen Joerger from Julie Rice
- In honor of Sue Bennett from Renee Miller
- In honor of Chelsea Heppner from Anonymous
- In honor of Jens Von Der Linden from Stephen Garcia
- In honor of Steve Weis & Annie Wang from Elaine Weis
- In honor of our Daughter, Elliana Bea Ryan
- In honor of Lynne Cutler, retiring manager of Montclair Branch, from Genevieve McElroy
- In appreciation of OPL's collections available through Link+, a free service for interlibrary loans, from friends in Davis, CA

To learn about more ways to donate, go to: fopl.org/donate



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- ✦ Winifred Walters, *Assistant Treasurer*

Our mission is to advance the role of the Oakland Public Library as a vital community resource and as an institution critical to the culture, education, and welfare of our diverse community.

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library is the only organization that provides support to all Oakland Public Libraries.

In addition to that great feeling that comes with supporting the library, members receive our quarterly newsletter that includes a special feature highlighting grants to the library.

The Bookmark Bookstore operates on volunteer power and is a community resource for anyone who loves books. The Bookmark has been in Oakland since 1992. Proceeds benefit the Oakland Public Library. Members receive a discount on purchases.

Check out our new look inside!

We welcome your feedback & comments:
[**info@fopl.org**](mailto:info@fopl.org)

If the date on your mailing label is **3-01-2019**
or earlier, PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

Your support is crucial:

Your annual member dues help fund grants to the Oakland Public Library. In the last 10 years, Friends of the OPL granted over **\$1.5M** for library programs and projects.

More ways to support Friends of the OPL:

- Invite a friend to become a member
- Leave a legacy by naming Friends of the OPL as a beneficiary in your estate plan
- Donate your gently-used books to the Bookmark Bookstore
- Volunteer! www.oaklandlibrary.org/volunteer
- Shop online at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchase when you select Friends of the Oakland Public Library.

Thank you!

To learn more, visit www.fopl.org or call The Bookmark Bookstore at (510) 444-0473.
The Friends of the Oakland Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.
Our tax ID is 94-2553734, and contributions are tax deductible.