

# IN THE STACKS

Winter/Spring 2026

Nurture Curiosity, Spark Connections, and Foster Lifelong Learning

## Director's Message

As we begin a new year, I'm pleased to share this winter edition of In the Stacks and to reflect on a meaningful moment for the Belvedere Tiburon Library. In 2026, we will enter the final year of our three-year Strategic Plan, a plan shaped by community input and designed to guide thoughtful, sustainable growth.

At a time when public spaces are being asked to do more than ever, intentional planning matters. Libraries today must balance increased use, evolving expectations, and long-term sustainability, all while maintaining a welcoming and accessible environment for everyone. Our Strategic Plan has helped ensure that the library's growth is proactive rather than reactive, allowing us to respond to community needs while protecting the core services people rely on every day.

Over the past two years, the plan has served as a practical framework for our work. It has guided how we steward public and philanthropic resources, how we expand programs and partnerships, and how we make decisions about space, services, and staffing. Most importantly, it has helped reinforce the library's role as a place for learning, creativity, and connection, whether someone is visiting for a program, exploring The Gallery, or studying after school.

Our focus this year is on transforming progress into lasting impact, and several initiatives will shape this next chapter. We are planning infrastructure improvements that will help ensure the library is

*Message continues on the next page*  
*Photos: Library's 30th anniversary party*



## Director's Message, Continued Partner Spotlight

a resilient community resource for years to come. We are also working with the Reed Union School District toward a shared goal of providing every student with a library card, expanding access to books, digital tools, and learning opportunities beyond the classroom. Additionally, we are on track to complete our sustainability certification by the end of 2026, further reinforcing our commitment to environmental stewardship, social equity, and the responsible use of public resources.

As this Strategic Plan enters its final year, it remains a foundation for the next chapter of thoughtful, community-driven planning. The insights gained and partnerships formed through this process will help inform what comes next, ensuring continuity and thoughtful evolution.

I am deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, volunteers, trustees, Foundation partners, and the broader community for your continued support and engagement. Your library is a shared community asset, and together we are shaping a resource that reflects our collective values.

I invite you to visit, participate, and stay connected in the months ahead.

Warmly,  
Crystal Duran  
Library Director



## Tiburon Peninsula Foundation

The Tiburon Peninsula Foundation (TPF) champions the creative, and community-minded spirit of our peninsula. We fund local projects and collaborate, turning good ideas into real impact. From art to environment to celebrations on Main Street, TPF helps Tiburon thrive—one inspired collaboration at a time. We are always accepting grant applications at [TiburonPeninsulaFoundation.org](http://TiburonPeninsulaFoundation.org)



## Volunteer at Corner Books

Help us increase hours at our volunteer-run bookstore. Corner Books sells gently used books, music, and movies to raise funds for the library.

Sign up to volunteer here:



Above: Claire Blotter, Dr. Ellen Killebrew, and Ted McDonnell discuss their work and field questions from the crowd at the library's second Local Authors Night (Nov. 2025)

Left: Author and chef Nichole Accettola of Kantine in San Francisco makes traditional Danish treats at a demo and book signing for her book *Scandinavian from Scratch* (Oct. 2025)

## Online Speaker Series

Watch and participate in online talks with popular writers including Liz Moore, David Brooks, Dr. Lindsey Stewart, Kate Quinn, and more.

Find all upcoming events and past recordings here:



## You Might Not Know...

Behind the scenes, our library staff do much more than check out books. Here are just a few ways they support learning, connection, and community every day:

- You might not know that library staff set up and break down hundreds of programs each year, from author talks to children's storytimes and community workshops. We hosted 1,148 programs in 2025—that's a lot of chairs moved!
- You might not know that each physical item added to the collection passes through at least three different staff members, who catalog the item, add labels, and place it on the shelf. Our cataloging librarian cataloged 6,455 new items in 2025 alone!
- You might not know that staff help patrons digitize family photos, slides, home movies, and audio recordings in the Digi Lab, preserving personal history for future generations.
- You might not know that behind every Library of Things item is staff time spent testing, cataloging, repairing, and creating how-to guides for patrons. Our collection includes 139 things to borrow.
- You might not know that staff are trained and stay up to date to help patrons navigate digital tools, from eBooks and streaming services to new technologies in the Makerspace. Collectively, staff assisted patrons to use technology 1,593 times in 2025.

## Culture

### Trivia Cafe at the Library Hosted by Howard Rachelson, Marin's Master of Trivia

Feb. 12, Mar. 12, Apr. 23, 6pm  
Open to all ages, from 12 to 112. It's a team effort, with questions from numerous categories. Bring a team or come join one. Complimentary snacks, and prizes to winners.

### Economics with Dr. Jon Haveman

*Co-sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tiburon-Belvedere*

Join economist Dr. Jon Haveman for expert, nonpartisan insights on today's most pressing U.S. economic issues, including Social Security and the latest economic outlook:

Feb. 9, 6pm Social Security  
Mar. 9, 6pm Topic TBD - see website  
Apr. 13, 6pm U.S. Economic Update

### Exploring the Great Classical Ballets with Corinne Jonas of Marin Ballet

Learn the captivating stories and scores behind these timeless productions. We will also learn a dance from each ballet!  
Thursdays at 11am:

Jan. 22 **Raymonda**  
Feb. 26 **Le Corsaire**  
Mar. 26 **Paquita**  
Apr. 23 **La Fille Mal Gardée**

### Living Shakespeare

Jan. 22, Feb. 5, Feb. 19, Mar. 5, Mar. 18, 6:30pm

Come for a round table discussion of Shakespeare in your life: words, works, worlds, illuminations, hauntings...pivotal moments that sustain and delight you.

### Shakespeare in Zelinsky Park

Save the Date! Apr. 4

## Wellness

### Mindfulness Meditation & Gentle Chair Yoga with Terre Passero

Fourth Friday of each month, 11am:  
Jan. 23, Feb. 27, Mar. 27, Apr. 24, May 22  
Join us for gentle chair yoga followed by guided mindful meditation to improve flexibility, balance, and strength in both body and mind. Each class ends with an informal chat, including ways to bring the practices into daily life. All levels welcome.

### Qigong: Movement Meditation with Claire R. Cohn

Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 18, 11am  
Claire draws upon her background from dance, movement therapy, bioenergetics and meditative Qigong practices to teach students self-healing through movement.

### Prevent Falls/Bodywork Workshop

Feb. 12, 11am  
Improve posture, gait and balance to alleviate neck and back strain and prevent falls with Claire R. Cohn.

### Age Well, Drive Smart: CHP's Driver Safety Instruction for Older Adults

Mar. 31, 11am  
Keep driving for as long as you can safely do so and learn about auto insurance policies in this California Highway Patrol class at the library.

## Technology

### Artificial Intelligence with Bridget Burke

Fun, engaging classes that make sense of today's fast-paced, AI-driven world and help you harness AI, spark creativity, and stay safe online. Wednesdays at 11am:

Jan. 28 **ChatGPT Basics**  
Jan. 29 **Assistive AI: Smarter Hearing**  
Feb. 11 **AI, Privacy, & Security**  
Feb. 25 **Omnioids: What's Walking into Our Homes?**  
Mar. 4 **Ageing Well With AI: Self**  
Mar. 25 **Ageing Well With AI: Health**  
Apr. 8 **Ageing Well With AI: Wealth**  
Apr. 22 **AI Enlightenment Salon**

### Apple Workshops with Jon Hartmann

Tuesdays at 11am:

Jan. 6 **Organizing Your Mac**  
Jan. 20 **Apple Intelligence**  
Feb. 3 **Getting Started with Apple Music**  
Feb. 24 **5 Essential Skills of iPhone**  
Mar. 10 **Mac OS Tahoe**  
Mar. 24 **New in iOS 26**  
Apr. 7 **Mastering Apple's Pages**  
Apr. 21 **Photos on the Mac**

### Drop-In Computer Help

Mondays, 2-3pm  
Need one-on-one tech help? Library staff can assist for short, drop-in sessions.

## Community

### Hootenanny

First and third Fridays, 1pm  
Bring your guitar, ukulele, or beautiful voice and play some classic songs. All levels are welcome.

### Ukulele Jam

Jan. 23, Feb. 27, Mar. 27, Apr. 24, 3pm  
This gathering of musicians includes members of Marin Ukuleles, SF Ukulele Rebellion, and other great ukulele players from around the Bay Area. For intermediate and advanced players.

### Mahjong Evening

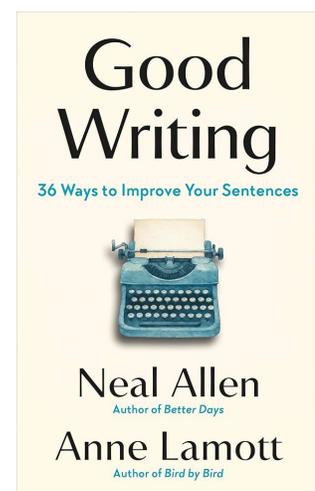
Tuesdays, 5:30pm  
Join us in the Reading Room for a community-led program that invites people of all skill levels to learn and play.

### Good Writing: An Evening with Anne Lamott & Neal Allen Mar. 18, 6pm

Come see Anne Lamott and Neal Allen in conversation, followed by audience Q&A. Signed books will be available for sale.

*Good Writing: 36 Ways to Improve Your Sentences* by Neal Allen and Anne Lamott will be released on **March 17, 2026**.

Space is limited; register online.





## Sustainability

### Marin Master Gardeners Presentations Keeping Varmints at Bay

Jan 27, 11am

### Growing Roses

Feb. 17, 11am

### Growing Edibles: Plan to Plot to Plate

Mar. 12, 11:30am

### All About Angel Island State Park with Ranger Casey Dexter-Lee

Feb. 26, 6pm

Learn about the nature, history, and recreational opportunities on Angel Island.

### Bears in Marin with the North Bay Bear Collaborative

Mar. 4, 6pm

Did you know we have black bears in Marin County? Join the North Bay Bear Collaborative to learn about these fascinating wild neighbors, their habits, and how they share our local environment.

### Pizza with Police

Mar. 31, 6:30pm

Grab a slice and get to know your local Tiburon and Belvedere police chiefs and community officers.

### Restorative Justice Workshops

Apr. 22, 5:30pm & May 9, 10am

Come together with your community to learn practical ways to navigate conflict and build stronger connections. Marin's Transformative Justice Institute will be leading these hands-on workshops.

### Shred Day

April 24, 1-4pm

A paper shredding truck will be onsite in the library parking lot to shred papers and records. Limit five bankers boxes per person.

## Book Clubs & Conversation Groups

### ¡Hablamos!

#### Join Our Spanish Conversation Club

First and third Tuesdays, 1pm

Looking to build your confidence in Spanish? Join a friendly, informal group of learners to improve your speaking and listening skills in a no-pressure environment.

### Fluent Italian Conversation Group

Thursdays, 1pm

### Contemporary Fiction Book Club

Come to our Contemporary Fiction Book Club to discuss award-winning novels:

Feb. 12 **So Far Gone** by Jess Walter

Mar. 12 **Flashlight** by Susan Choi

Apr. 9 **Jellyfish Have No Ears** by Adele Rosenfeld

May 14 **Broken Country** by Clare Leslie Hall

### Book Circle:

#### Books Binding Us Together

A community literacy initiative offering curated book circles. Through shared reading and dialogue, participants engage in meaningful discussions that deepen understanding, build connection, and expand perspectives towards both individual and social change. Presented by Literacy by the Bay. Saturdays at noon:

Jan. 31 **The Book of Alchemy: A Creative Practice for an Inspired Life** by Suleika Jaouad

Feb. 28 **Wuthering Heights** by Emily Bronte

Mar. 28 **The River Is Waiting** by Wally Lamb

### Short Story Hour

Second Wednesdays, 2:30pm

This winter and spring we are reading and discussing short stories in the anthology *The Best American Short Stories of the Century* edited by John Updike.

### The New Yorker Discussion Group

Third Wednesdays, 2pm

We'll discuss two articles from recent issues. Find links to the articles on our website or email the Info Desk.



Above: Local authors, organizations, and vendors gather to promote environmentally-friendly causes at the library's Eco-Everyday: Small Actions, Big Impact green fair (June 2025)

## Spring Seed Swap & Plant Exchange

with Marin Master Gardeners  
Feb. 21, 11am

Celebrate spring with the Marin Master Gardeners! Get expert advice on seed saving, pollinator plants, planting your spring and summer garden, and more! Hands-on planting activities for all ages. We'll have fun make-and-take projects, including planting in biodegradable pots, creating seed tape, and rolling seed balls.

Bring seeds you've harvested or plant cuttings to share with the community if you can — but you don't need to bring anything to take seeds home!

Appropriate for all ages. Bring your questions. Share, save, and learn.

## Senior Expo: Resources To Enrich Your Life on the Tiburon Belvedere Peninsula

Held at Belvedere Tiburon Library  
Apr. 17, 10am-2pm

Co-Hosted by The Ranch and  
Belvedere Tiburon Library

Join us for a day of celebration and exploration at our Senior Day Expo! Lunch provided for attendees.

Come and learn about the wide range of services and offerings on the Peninsula for our adult and senior peninsula community. Participate in health demonstrations, join us for informative sessions, and learn from local providers.

# BELVEDERE TIBURON LIBRARY FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025



## FOUNDATION BOARD

Lucy Churton, President  
Lauren Cromwell, Vice President  
Toni Lee, Treasurer  
Michelle Thomsen, Secretary

Ann Aylwin  
Rachel Berman  
Aviva Boedecker  
Brenda Bottum  
Julie Courtney  
Sophia Ghaffary  
Mickey Hubbell  
Heather Lobdell  
Sylvia Singh  
Marty Winter  
Shirley Young  
Michelyn Good, Dir. of Operations

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Library Friends,

I am grateful to reflect on the ongoing growth, generosity, and community connections that continue to shape our Library. Thanks to the commitment of our donors, countless volunteers, and amazing staff, the Library thrives as a vibrant hub for learning, creativity, and belonging.

This year we celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a nostalgic look back at our humble beginnings and a proud look forward to how far we have come. Your support has empowered us to add comfortable new furniture, improve the Children's Outdoor Patio, provide programming, and so much more.

This Annual Report celebrates the many ways your support strengthens our programs, and enriches the lives of patrons of all ages. Thank you for your generous and continued support!

With Gratitude,  
-Lucy Churton

# A NOTE OF THANKS



## Appreciation from Library Director Crystal Duran

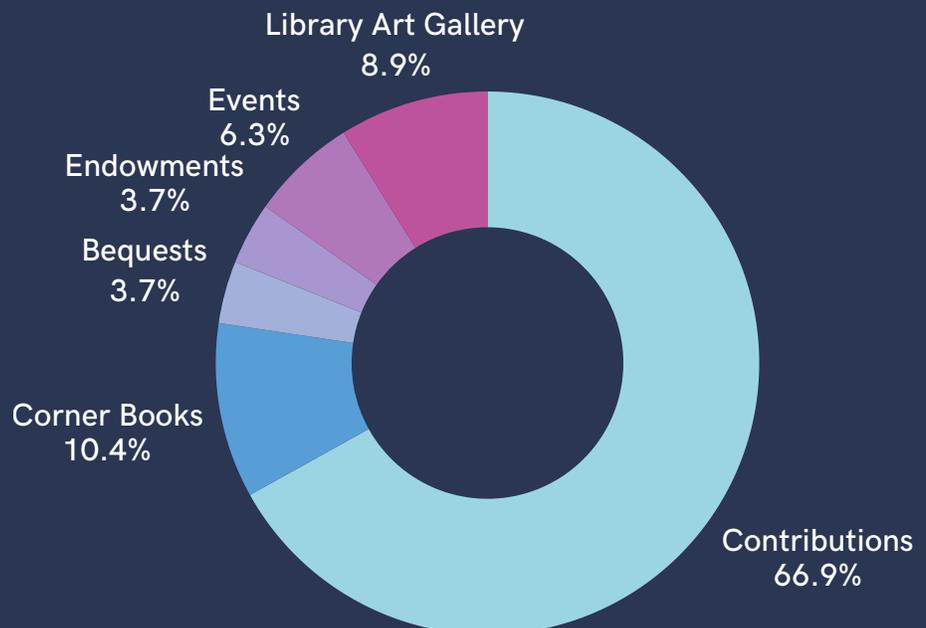
We extend our heartfelt thanks to our community for their generous and continued support of the Belvedere Tiburon Library Foundation. This year, your donations made an extraordinary impact, including funding the rubberized flooring on the Children's Patio, refreshing our spaces with comfortable new furniture, and expanding creativity through upgraded MakerSpace materials. Your contributions have also strengthened our collections, enabling us to provide faster access to eBooks and expanding our Library of Things items for all ages. Together, you help us create a vibrant, welcoming library where curiosity thrives, and our community feels inspired and connected.

# SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



We are deeply grateful for the extraordinary generosity of Bonnie Spiesberger, whose bequest has enabled The Foundation to establish a significant endowment for the Library. Her remarkable contribution is a testament to Bonnie's belief in the power of knowledge and her love for our community library. This gift will help the Library continue to expand upon programs, resources, and learning opportunities for our community in the years to come.

# FUNDING SOURCES



DONATING  
IS EASY!



# YOUR SUPPORT COUNTS



## Library Resources:

- Teen Room
- Children's Room
- MakerSpace
- Meeting Rooms
- CornerBooks
- Library Art Gallery
- One-on-One Tech Training
- Printers and Copy Machine

## Community Events and Programming:

- 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event
- 25th Annual Teddy Bear Tea
- Donor Recognition Party
- 1,146 programs
- Discover and Go Museum Passes
- Seed Library
- Ukulele Experience Kit
- Hootenanny



## Library Details:

- 3,292 hours open
- 7,301 library card holders
- 150,346 people walked through the doors
- 48,746 printed materials
- 106,151 check-outs of electronic materials
- 31,735 lent items to other libraries
- 17,128 items brought in on request
- 18.50 Full-time employee staff
- 21,544 reference questions asked

# THANK YOU TO OUR KIND DONORS!

## Bestsellers Society

Akin Family Foundation  
Mary Fishman Trust  
Tom Gram  
Sylvia and Charan Singh  
Bonnie Spiesberger Trust  
Tiburon Sunset Rotary Foundation

## Literary Legends

Ann Aylwin and Bill Smith  
Shirin and Houman Behzadi  
Brenda Bottum  
Lorrie and Richard Greene

## Creator's Corner

Anonymous (1)  
Mansoor Assadi  
Sydne and Allan Bortel  
Nancy and Starrett Dalton  
Barbro and Frank Greene  
Tony Hooker  
Joyce and Saburo Kami  
Carolie Pescatello  
Terry and Dennis Schwakopf  
Lanya and Juan Zambrano

## Digital Innovators

Anonymous (4)  
Caroline Bailey  
Arlene Buechert  
Susan Cluff and Neil Rudolph  
Jean and Thomas Cromwell  
Michelle Friend  
Annette and Fred Gellert  
Sallie Griffith  
Donna and James Hale  
Gay and Wyman Harris  
Sue Hoeschler  
Bethany Hornthal  
Mickey and Mark Hubbell  
Gabriella and Glenn Isaacson  
Pepper and Michael Jackson  
Tina and James Jacobsen  
Tim Klusas  
Carol, Duff and Mikayla Kurland  
Carolyn and Bryce Lensing  
Heather and Judson Lobdell  
Sharon Lucheta  
Pamela Martori and Robert McCaskill  
Brian Matas  
Janice and Steve Meisel  
Barbara Meislin  
Noelle Montgomery and Dan Janney  
Cynthia Ostroff  
Pinecrest Fund- SF Foundation  
The Rotary Club of Tiburon-  
Belvedere Foundation  
Gretchen Saeger Trust  
Nancy Sumner and Jeff Slavitz  
Sally Steele  
Elle and Paul Stephens  
Janet Strauss and Jeffrey Hawkins  
Christine and Ken Weil

## Book Lovers Guild

Anonymous (1)  
Patricia and James Albo  
Barbara and Wayne Alexander  
Ida Baugh and John Herrington  
Mary Bowles and Martin Perlmutter  
Pat and John Carapiet  
Marie Cavanagh  
Lopa and Paritosh Choksi  
Susan and Michael Dab  
Georgann Fuller  
Rena and Spencer Fulweiler  
George R. & Elise M. Fink Foundation  
Pamela and Daniel Goldman  
Joy Graustark  
Diane Green and R. Tyler Andersen  
Carolyn and Doug Grey  
Linda Groah  
Francine Halberg and Terry Kessler  
Judy and Bob Huret  
Sharon Kahn  
Lisa Klairmont and Harold Kleiderman  
Julie LaNasa and John Kunzweiler  
Whitney Lee and Paul Falzone  
Jennifer Lemire  
Lisa Lori  
Jenni and Benjamin Marshall  
Margaret Mason and David Barker  
Katie and Justin McCarthy  
Stephanie Mendel  
Peggy and Bill Moorhouse  
Ashok Moorthy  
Melville Owen  
Stephanie Pugash  
Roxanne and Albert Richards  
Jane Rosen and Jay Kellett  
Meline and Jirayr Roubinian  
Ruth and Richard Rozen  
Barbara Russell  
David Sandrich and Romney Resney  
Katherine and David Sutton  
Michelle and David Thomsen  
Effie Westervelt  
Chris and Steve Wilsey  
Sarah Wright and Stuart Ryan

## Authors' Allies

Anonymous (4)  
Takako Anderson and Laurie Fannin  
Jeff Appleman  
Anne Marie Yuan and Peter Bacchetti  
Carol and Leslie Benet  
Robert Bernheim  
Shannan and Stephen Bishop  
Loren Block  
Aviva and Karl Boedecker  
Kathleen and Stephen Bradley  
Janet Braff  
Bill and Randi Brinkman  
Kathleen Burke and Ralph Davis  
Anne and Jerry Butler  
Lynn and Peter Callander  
Lois Cannady  
Louise and Angelo Capozzi  
Sharon Chackerian  
Winnie and Calvin Chang

## Authors' Allies

Taissa Cherry and Jay LaBourene  
Chevron Matching Gifts  
Elizabeth and Avery Chope  
Lucy and Ken Churton  
Mollie and Dennis Collins  
Francie Connelly  
Stone Coxhead  
Janet and Sid Daru  
Pamela Dekema and Richard Champe  
Dean Dietrich  
Anne and Larry Drew  
Rekha and Amitabh Dutt  
Mary and David Eklund  
Jane Elkins  
Julia Faucett  
Marcia and Roger Felton  
Robert Finch  
Victoria and Barry Fong  
Alice Fredericks and Neal Benowitz  
Nancy and Roger Freed  
Kamala Geroux Berry and David Berry  
Sophia and Mike Ghaffary  
Susan and Kamran Ghiasi  
Diane Sklar and Wayne Gilbert  
Jennifer Goddard  
Deborah Greenspan  
Elizabeth and Robert Hart  
Margaret and William Hart  
Gillian Hayward  
Peggy and Ed Hirsh  
Robin Hudnut  
Jennifer and Gordon Hull  
Evelyn Jaffe  
Cynthia Jensen  
Maureen and Ken Johnson  
Gee Kampmeyer  
Mary and John Kaufman  
Jean-Marie Kelly  
Rebecca and Allan Jergesen  
George Landau  
Antonette and Nate Lee  
Naomi and Robert Leonard  
Helen and William Lindqvist  
Barbara and Lawrence Lonn  
Susan and William Lukens  
Chenin and John Malloy  
James Martinoni  
Marlowe and Marc Matoba  
Joan and Roger McGee  
John Meyer  
Marguerite Middendorf  
Felicienne Miller  
Dolores and Marvin Mizis  
Phillip Moffitt  
Neva and Marvin Moskowitz  
Jane and Barry Moss  
Donna Motluk and R. Stuart Bewley  
Lilian and D.B. Murray  
William Newland  
Thomas Nord  
Keiko Otsu  
Sheila Pai  
Lynn Pasternak  
Lynn and Richard Payne  
Emily Poplawski and Justin Wickett  
Patricia Powell  
Becky and Bob Pringle

## Authors' Allies

Thomas Pulley  
Sally Rankin  
Jane and William Robbins  
Brenda and Dexter Roberts  
Barbara and Eric Roberts  
Ruth and Mel Ronick  
Robert Rosenbluth  
Teveia Barnes and Alan Sankin  
Lynn and James Scadden  
Cynthia and Stephen Schneider  
Peter Schneiderman  
Sally and Steven Schroeder  
Carole and Douglas Sheft  
Tong Shen and Yi Zhou  
Renee and Tom Shurstad  
Jill Sideman  
Ginny Sjoberg  
Marie and Peter Snoek  
Edith and Howard Spindler  
Ruth and Larry Stotter  
Tara Sullivan and James Horan  
Susan and Rich Sundberg  
Judith Taylor  
Benita and Ramon Truman  
Jeanne and Peter Tymstra  
Nancy Unobskey  
Paul Von Stamwitz  
Linda Wagner  
Susan and Sam Warburg  
Robyn and William Watson  
Ingrid and William Wheeler  
Ellen and Ronald Whittier  
Susan and Robert Wolfe  
Patricia and David Young

## Fiction Friends

Anonymous (7)  
Donald Abramson  
Janet and Ronald Benjamin  
Linda Berg  
Jean Bordon  
Mary and Robert Callender  
Stephanie Calmenson  
Barbara Cornelius  
Jeanne and Don Dana  
Philip Gardner  
Barbara Hart  
Gail Harter  
Joan Harter  
Janet Hickman  
Deborah Hoffman  
Lee Humphrey  
Bruce King  
Shawna and Adam Levi  
Betsy and Roy Little  
Barbara Major  
Kate McCormick  
Susan McDaniel  
Edith Piness  
Carma Rose  
April Hopkins Rox  
Patricia Russell  
Sally-Jean and James Shepard  
Rita Stewart  
Ingrid and Brad Storm  
Carol Svetcov  
Cres Van Keulen

# Youth Highlights

Sign up for the Children's and Teen email newsletters



## Children's Programs

**Baby Bounce** ages 0-18 months  
Mondays, 10:30am

This series will focus on early childhood development and parent education to explore the learning opportunities in storytime programs and reading and play at home.

**Bilingual Storytime in English and Spanish with Arlette**

Ages 2-3, but all ages welcome  
Thursdays, 10am

Bring your little ones for a fun-filled session of music, movement & imagination! This interactive storytime is perfect for sparking creativity and fostering a love of language.

**Read to a Dog**

Jan. 7, Feb. 4, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, 2:30pm  
Build your confidence by reading to a furry friend.

**Mosaic Monday**

Every Monday, all day, create your own masterpiece for all to enjoy on our patio with sidewalk chalk, weather permitting. All ages welcome.

**Crafternoon** ages 5+

Tuesdays, 3:30pm  
Kids can come to the Founders Room to make an easy craft project. Younger kids are welcome! Coloring sheets and easier projects will be available for them.

### Teddy Bear Tea

A Very Teddy Picnic  
Save the Date! Mar. 21  
Three seatings:  
10am, 11:30am, 1pm

Bring your friends and family and join us for hot chocolate, tea, treats, and story time with Alicia.

Tickets will be on sale soon.



**Toddler Storytime**

Ages 2-3, but all ages are welcome  
Every Tuesday at 10:15 am, toddlers can enjoy a fun and interactive storytime with stories, songs, and fingerplays.

**Preschool Storytime**

Ages 3-5, but all ages welcome  
Wednesdays 3:30pm  
Follow along, sing, dance, and play in the Children's Room.

## For Teens

Returning to school after winter break is exciting and challenging, as students face greater academic pressure in the spring term and inclement weather forces youth to spend more time indoors. The library will offer several events geared for tweens and teens in 2026, as well as new manga series and resources for homework and school projects. Highlights this winter and spring include the following programs:

**College preparation for high school students:**

**ACT & SAT Practice Tests proctored by Marin SAT Prep**

SAT - Jan. 17, Feb. 28, May 23  
ACT - Mar. 28

If you are preparing for college admissions, take advantage of this opportunity for free practice tests. All tests will be held on Saturday mornings starting at 10:30 am. Sign up for one or several sessions.

*Below: Colorful sidewalk chalk designs on a sunny Mosaic Monday*

*Below right: making buttons in the Teen Workshop*



**One-stop College Admissions Webinar**

Online: Jan. 24, 10:30am  
Students and parents are invited to register to learn how to navigate the confusing college admissions process from local experts from Marin SAT Prep and Samara College Advising. Topics will include standardized tests, college applications, searching for the right college, writing personal essays, and more. A Zoom link will be sent after registration.

**Engaging activities for middle school students:**

**THURS-DIY**

Thursdays 4-5pm in the Teen Workshop  
Drop in for a weekly craft workshop; no experience necessary.

**Around the World Book Club**

Mondays 4:30-5:30 in the Teen Workshop  
Jan. 26, Feb. 23, Mar. 30, Apr. 27, June 1  
Starting this year, a new book club for students in grades 6-8 will combine a love of reading and eating! Participants will sample foods from diverse cultures related to Young Adult books. Titles will be selected that are appropriate and appealing to middle school students and represent multicultural perspectives and characters.

**Dungeons & Dragons Club**

Alternate Saturdays 10:30-4 pm in the Teen Workshop (see website for dates)  
Two D&D Clubs for middle school students hit the ground running last year and there's no stopping the enthusiasm and excitement for this magical role-playing game that nurtures teamwork, creativity, storytelling, and problem-solving within inventive fantasy worlds. New players are welcome to sign up.

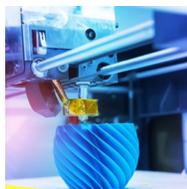


# Makerspace & More

## Makerspace Workshops

### 3D Printing for Beginners

Jan. 22, Feb. 19, Mar. 19, Apr. 16, 11am  
Learn to find and customize amazing designs and discover how you can bring your ideas to life.



### Repair Advice Workshop

Feb. 12, Mar. 12, Apr. 9, May 14, 5:30pm  
Give your broken items a second chance! Bring your busted gadgets, appliances, and more to our advice session. Get expert help with troubleshooting, disassembly, and maybe even a fix.

### Sewing Bee

Jan. 24, Feb. 21, Mar. 22, 11am  
Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting, bring your current project or follow along with our seasonal craft.

### Design, Press, Create: A Heat Press & Sublimation Workshop

Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, Apr. 23, 11am  
Learn how to bring your personalized gift, apparel, and home decor designs to life using the heat transfer technique.

### Clothing Mending Workshop

Feb. 15, Mar. 15, 3pm  
Join us for a hands-on workshop that teaches basic clothing repair skills as well as more advanced mending!

### Cricut Crafting for Beginners

Feb. 7, Mar. 7, Apr. 4, 11am  
We will demonstrate how this machine can cut, write, and score a variety of materials.

## Don't Just Remember Your History. Preserve It for Your Family and Friends!

We are thrilled to announce Living Stories, a new collaboration with XR Libraries.

Most family artifacts sit in boxes or on hard drives. Living Stories changes that.

Use the materials you've digitized in our Digi Lab to create an immersive life story.

It's more than a movie—it's a way to preserve voices, stories, and connections for generations to come.

Turn your heritage into a living legacy. Visit the Digi Lab to get started!



*Above: This winter we rearranged the stacks in straight lines so it's easier to find books. Come browse!*

## A Warm Welcome to New Staff!

**Jen** recently earned her Master's in Library Science with a focus on public librarianship. She is excited to put her education and prior public library experience to use serving the Bel Tib community. Before working in libraries, she spent seven years in software quality assurance and technology program management, so she's always happy to help with technical questions. Outside of the library, Jen enjoys cooking for family and friends, going to the movies, and spending time outdoors. You can find Jen at the Information Desk.

## New Book Lists Curated by Librarians



Scan the QR code above to find lists of critically-acclaimed books and media compiled by Belvedere Tiburon librarians:

- Staff picks for winter
- Acclaimed historical fiction
- Movies to celebrate National Science Fiction Day
- Diverse voices in horror
- Holiday movies
- How to grow and cook your own food
- New vinyl records

*Below: Booths at the first Tiburon Artisan Market (Nov. 2025). Many makers used the Makerspace to prototype and create wares for the Market.*





## News from The Gallery

Art is needed now more than ever to engage and connect our community. Our gallery at the Belvedere Tiburon Library has more than risen to this challenge over the last three and a half years. As we enter 2026, we are refreshing our branding to reflect our growth, our gallery's commitment to consistently engaging shows, and our mission to produce exciting evenings that serve to broaden and connect our art curious friends. See the new logo below:

**THE Gallery** | BELVEDERE TIBURON LIBRARY

## New Art Exhibits

**Abstracting Nature** through Mar. 11  
Abstracting Nature will showcase interpretive, expressive, abstract, or semi-abstract art and photography that begins with nature.

### ARTalk by Artist David Maisel

Feb. 19, 6:30pm

Maisels' abstract photographs chronicle the complex relationships between natural systems and human intervention. His works are included in many public collections, including SFMOMA, Metropolitan Museum of Art, LACMA, J. Paul Getty Museum, and the National Gallery of Art, among others.

### Art & Mass Culture: Commerce Meets Creativity

Mar. 19–May 13

### Meaning of Home: A Photography Exhibition.

May 21–July 8

### Mark Making: Dots, Lines, Textures

Sept. 17– Nov. 11

### Color for the Good: Resilience and Healing

Nov. 19 – Jan. 13, 2027

The Gallery, the library's not so hidden gem, is flourishing in its fourth year. Art brings people together and given these challenging times, bring it on! We are garnering praise and recognition in and beyond Tiburon – both due to the quality and creativity of our shows and to our engagement with the Bay Area artist community. Our incredible artists make us who we are.

At this juncture, we are well positioned to make assessments as well as handle shifts in roles and responsibilities. Heartfelt thanks to Brenda Bottum for all her years of leadership in launching and establishing this wonderful new art gallery that brings such civic pride. We are most indebted for her often selfless and heroic efforts in getting us from locally focused and solo exhibitions to esteemed Bay Area group shows. While Brenda is taking up the mantle to Chair the Foundation, she will continue as Gallery Chair

of Operations. And I am so deeply honored to expand my responsibilities as the new Gallery Chair.

The Gallery has distinguished itself and is now securely on Marin's cultural map. But, at this first quarter of 2026, let's take stock:

### Anticipate some refinements or "glow ups"

- Curated and uncommon art exhibition themes
- Engagement events: outstanding speakers for ARTalks, Meet the Artists evenings, and Gallery chats
- Doubling down to grow our artist community and reputation
- Increased awareness that The Gallery is an absolutely incredible place to buy art!

Since opening our doors in the fall of 2022, we have shown 810 artworks from 439 participating artists. Sixteen exhibitions in, our reputation grows for offering uniquely themed shows: ranging from a non-traditional portraiture group show, to San Quentin artists, to our last installation of contemporary works paired with their creative inspirations.

For those of you with FOMO: our artist receptions could be described as some of the liveliest parties in town—175 were in attendance for the last opening. Save these dates so you can see for yourself: Thursdays beginning at 6pm January 15, March 19, May 15, September 17 and November 19.

Participating in third space-type cultural evenings and art mixers encourages lively discussions and connections around art. Email us at [art@beltibrary.org](mailto:art@beltibrary.org) to get your name added to the email newsletter so you can learn about ARTalks and openings in advance.

Finally, our sincerest thanks to the Belvedere Community Foundation for believing in our vision and partnering with us. A huge shout out to the leadership team of this Gallery for their remarkable and compassionate direction. Last but not at all least, thanks to the army of volunteers who pick up dirty glasses at receptions, jury and hang the art, put away chairs after ARTalks, and post flyers around town . . . All the unsung "behind the scenes" volunteers deserve considerable gratitude.

The Gallery is an art space for this community and beyond. Experience the art on the walls on your terms. All are most welcome.

Diane Green  
Chair, The Gallery | Belvedere Tiburon Library

## Foundation President's Note

Dear Library Friends,

I have had the honor of serving as Foundation President for the past two years, and as my term comes to an end, I am filled with gratitude for all that this Board has accomplished. I am thrilled to welcome Brenda Bottum as the next Foundation President. Brenda has been a dedicated and extraordinary Board member for several years, and she will lead the Library Foundation to exciting new places. Please join us in congratulating her on this well-deserved role!

This remarkable Board has grown to 15 active and hardworking members. Together, we have raised crucial funds for programming, improved the Makerspace and children's patio, hosted a memorable 30th Anniversary Celebration, added cozy furniture, and so much more.

Watching Corner Books flourish under the leadership of Heather Lobdell has been truly inspiring. The network of kind volunteers who keep CB running is a reflection of Heather's leadership and the strength of our community.

Step into The Gallery and be teleported to a creative sanctuary, with expertly curated exhibitions that are consistently meaningful and thought-provoking. The Gallery has become a notable addition to the county's arts ecosystem, bringing our community together through ever-popular Opening Receptions and ARTalks. Brenda Bottum will continue on The Gallery committee and will pass The Gallery Chair position baton to Diane Green. Please join us in welcoming and congratulating Diane in her new and exciting leadership role!

Special thanks to a fabulous Foundation steering committee: Lauren Cromwell, Michelle Thomsen, and Toni Lee. Heartfelt thanks to Michelyn Good, our esteemed Operations Director, along with the entire Board.

Finally, NONE of our success would be possible without the generosity of donors like you! Thank you for supporting your community Library - we are so grateful!

I adore this Library, Crystal, and the entire staff, and I am delighted to continue serving on the Foundation Board as a member, and with The Gallery. It's simply too much fun to step away. Wishing everyone a peaceful and wonderful 2026.

Kind regards, and I hope to see you at the Library,

Lucy Churton



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Presidents' Day (Feb. 16)

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Sign up here:



Designed by  
Joey Della Santina,  
Assistant Library Director

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## New Additions to the Library of Things

Want to learn a new skill for the new year?  
Need to borrow an item you don't need very often?  
Stop by the Information Desk to see what's new in the Library of Things.  
All things can be checked out for three weeks, like a book.

- Pressure washer
- Label maker
- Paper shredder
- Bicycle pump
- Portable turntable
- Blu-ray player
- Boombox
- Electricity Usage Monitor
- Sewing & mending kit
- Full list here:

