



The Library Connection online newsletter provides the public with information about upcoming events, major programs and other news of the City of San Diego Public Library. Anyone can sign up for this free monthly email announcement by visiting the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> and clicking on "News & Events."

SEPTEMBER 2004

VOLUME 2

"Stories of Faith" Explores Religion and Diversity in San Diego

A Variety of More Than 40 Activities and Exhibits Planned for Major Program Through January 2005

A major, five-month program by the City of San Diego Public Library will explore the role of religion as a pivotal filter through which San Diegans can better understand their history and changes to their communities. "Stories of Faith" will enable San Diego residents to learn more about each other's beliefs and values through a variety of activities that will create bridges of understanding between neighborhoods and the larger San Diego community. The series of more than 40 events will include writing and oral history workshops, documentaries, panel discussions, art exhibits, music and dance concerts, and films.

"The 'Stories of Faith' series will focus on the richly diverse community that is San Diego," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "The program will both bring people together and showcase the Library as a cultural center in the San Diego region."

The San Diego region is an ethnically and culturally diverse community due to its proximity to the U.S.-Mexico border, its location on the Pacific Rim, and the presence of one of the largest military complexes in the nation. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, San Diego's foreign-born population grew by 70 percent between 1980 and 1990. "Stories of Faith" will focus on neighborhoods to the south and east of downtown and in the City Heights community. These areas are some of the most diverse in the region and host many of the newly arrived immigrant groups from around the world. The



"E Minha Cara" traces a filmmaker's journey to Brazil, as he seeks the identity of the spirits who haunt his dreams. The film will be shown Sept. 20 at 6 p.m. at the Central Library.

religious beliefs practiced within these neighborhoods include Islam, Catholicism, Buddhism, Judaism,

Rastafarianism, various Protestant and evangelical denominations, Baha'i, and diverse forms of spiritualism, including Santería and Vodou. The project's theme was inspired by a successful series of programs by the Library shortly after the Sept. 11 tragedy. The goal was to sensitize people about the

cultures and traditions of Arab and Muslim communities. With the "Stories of Faith" project, the Library intends to build on conversations already begun, with hope of deepening the dialogue and extending the discussion to the many ethnic and cultural communities in San Diego.

"Stories of Faith" is part of the California Council for the Humanities' Communities Speak project, the goal of which is to enable participants and the general public to learn more about each other's beliefs and values. The Library's series continues through January with a variety of activities.

A schedule of September events is on page 4. More information about "Stories of Faith," including a schedule of events, can be found on the City's Web site by going to <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>, clicking on "News & Events," and choosing "Stories of Faith."

A fervently devout young widow searches for her missing daughter in "Santitos." The film will be shown Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Library.

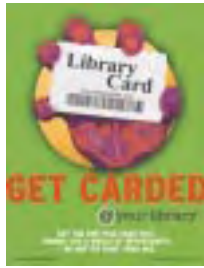


Libraries to be Closed Labor Day

All City libraries will be closed Monday, Sept. 6 for the Labor Day holiday. As a convenience to patrons, book drops will remain open to return library materials.



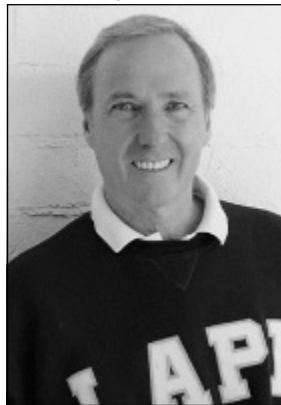
Get Carded! It's Library Card Sign-Up Month



September is national Library Card Sign-Up Month, and the San Diego Public Library wants to remind you that “The Smartest Card is @ your library” – it’s your library card. The Library is joining the Public Library Association, a division of the American Library Association, and other public libraries across the country to promote “The Smartest Card @ your library,” a campaign to make the library card the most valued and used card in every wallet. The campaign also reminds the public that public libraries are partners for vibrant and educated communities, essential for a free people, and places of opportunity. For more information on how you can sign up for your library card, stop by your local library or visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

Crime Novelist Joseph Wambaugh to speak at Point Loma-Hervey Library Anniversary Event

The Point Loma-Hervey Branch Library will celebrate its one year anniversary with internationally acclaimed author **Joseph Wambaugh**. Join us for the special event, in the Library’s Community Room. The son of a Pittsburgh police officer, Joseph A. Wambaugh Jr. became one of America’s most famous cops and a bestselling author who redefined police fiction. He’d been with the Los Angeles Police Department for more than 10 years by the time he published his first novel, “The New Centurions,” in 1971. He has won several major awards, including two Edgar Allen Poe Awards, and is currently a resident of San Diego. The event will be Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m. The Point Loma-Hervey Branch is at 3701 Voltaire St., 619-531-1539.



Two Concerts Scheduled in September

The Library’s Fall Concert Series continues with two events in September. On Sept. 19, SDSU music professors **Tom Stauffer**, cello; **Cynthia Darby**, piano; and **Felix Olschofka**, violin, will perform Trio in E flat major, op. 1 no.1 by Beethoven and Trio in B major op. 8 by Brahms. On Sept. 26, San Diego Symphony cellists **Richard Levine** and **Marcia Bookstein** will perform works by Telmann, Kummer, Stevens, Bartok and Desmond. Both concerts will be held at 2:30 p.m. at the Central Library, 820 E St.

Coming Attractions



Each month the Library presents a variety of films, many of which are independent or foreign films that are not widely distributed. Others are classic, family-friendly movies.

Sept 8: “**Goodbye, Lenin**” (2003) – A culture-shock comedy in East Germany before the fall of the Berlin Wall. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 11: “**Toy Story 2**” (1999) – Sequel to the landmark 1995 computer-animated blockbuster. San Carlos, 10 a.m.

Sept. 11: “**Poetry in Wartime**” (2004) – See story, page 3.

Sept. 12: “**Wattstax**” (2000) – See story, page 3.

Sept. 13: “**Santitos**” (1999) – Enchanting, humorous tale about a woman in search of her missing daughter. Part of “Stories of Faith” program. See story, pages 1 and 4. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 18: “**Stuart Little**” (1999) – Animated/live action story of a mouse, raised by a human family, who learns to live large and think big. San Carlos, 10 a.m.

Sept. 20: “**E Minha Cara**” (2001) – Traces filmmaker’s journey to Brazil, as he seeks the identity of spirits who haunt his dreams. Part of “Stories of Faith” program. See story, pages 1 and 4. Valencia Park/Malcolm X, 6 p.m.

Sept. 20: “**A Panther in Africa**” (2004) – Documentary of Black Panther Pete O’Neal living in Tanzania since 1969 to avoid prosecution in the U.S. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 24: “**Road to Morocco**” (1942) – One of the “Road” series with Bob Hope, Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour. Mission Valley, 7 p.m.

Sept. 25: “**Shrek**” (2001) – A computer-animated comedy set in a strange, colorful land populated by fairy tale characters. San Carlos, 10 a.m.

Library Offers Two Free Workshops for Parents About “Safety and the Internet”

The Library begins a series of workshops in September to assist parents in learning about the types of technology their children are using. This free public workshop series of “Parents, Children, & Technology” workshops were designed as part of a grant from Verizon Wireless. The first workshop, “Safety and the Internet,” will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 15 at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive, 858-538-8158. The same workshop will also be held at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 20 at the Point Loma-Hervey Branch, 3701 Voltaire St., 619-858-531-1539. The workshops will be taught by Library staff members. Seating is limited, call the Library to sign-up. More information about the workshops is available on the Web at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> or by calling the Library.

Cult Documentary Film “Wattstax” Features R&B, Gospel and Soul Stars of the Early 1970s

In August 1972, seven years after the Watts riots, the legendary Stax recording label staged a benefit concert in Los Angeles for 90,000 people. They called it Wattstax, the “Black Woodstock”; but there are many differences between that seminal hippie event and the 1972 concert. Woodstock was all about peace, love and music. Wattstax, held three years later in Los Angeles, had those elements as well; but it was a more socio-politically charged event, with its emphasis on black pride and the simple opportunity for African-Americans to assert that “I am somebody.”

The Library will show the documentary film on Sunday, Sept. 12 at 2 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. The event is free to the public.

Hosted by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Wattstax was a veritable who’s who of gospel, soul and R&B and was a mirror of various aspects of African-American culture. The newly restored concert film features trenchant commentary from comedian Richard Pryor, performances by Rufus



The Rev. Jesse Jackson, left, introduces performer Isaac Hayes in the film “Wattstax.” Photo courtesy of Wattstax.

Thomas, the Staple Singers, the Emotions and the Bar-Kays, and includes the grand finale (not seen in the original film) — Isaac Hayes’ electrifying “Theme From Shaft.”

This film screening is part of the Public Broadcast System’s POV series and is much less a music movie than a chronicle of black life as what Richard Pryor calls “a soulful expression of the black experience.” A DVD and CD of Wattstax are planned for release this year.

Free Online Tutoring Via Library Web Site Awaits Students Going Back to School

Students returning in the fourth through 12th grades can take advantage of free online homework assistance through the Library’s Web site. Tutor.com provides one-on-one information services for libraries and other educational institutions. Students can log on at libraries or from home and are connected with a live tutor online for help in math, science, social studies and English. Spanish-speaking students can receive assistance from bilingual tutors in math and science. Students and tutors can review specific homework questions in the online classroom using controlled chat rooms, an interactive white board and shared Web browsing. The program can also be beneficial for those seeking their general education degrees. The service is available daily from 3 to 10 p.m. at all City libraries and to students at home via the Library on the City Web site (<http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>).

Creating and Installing Public Art at La Jolla Library Focus of TV Show

A new program on City TV 24 follows the process of creating and installing public art at the La Jolla-Riford Branch Library. “Voyage of Discovery” will first air on Sept. 3 at 6 p.m. The program focuses on local artist Christopher Lee as he creates original artwork that became part of the library. The short subject documentary will repeat Sept. 4 and Sept. 5 at 12:30 and 6 p.m.; and Sept. 6 at 9 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. For additional show times, check the City TV 24 listings on the City’s Web site: <http://www.sandiego.gov>.

New Film “Poetry in Wartime” to Make San Diego Debut at Central Library on Sept. 11

A new documentary film, “Poetry in Wartime,” will make its San Diego premiere at the Central Library on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 2:30 p.m. The event is free to the public. The film explores war through images and words of poets – both unknown and famous – to bring the experience of war into sharp focus that inspires horror, sadness, a passionate quest for truth, and a profound sense of hope. “Poetry in Wartime” offers a diversity of voices, including warriors and civilians, victims and veterans, journalists and historians, immigrants and refugees, and activists. The event is co-sponsored by the Library, San Diego Writers’ Cooperative and San Diego Writers Ink. A discussion and open poetry reading will follow the screening. “Poetry in Wartime” will be shown in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St., in downtown San Diego. For more information about the screening, visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> or call the Central Library at (619) 236-5800.

Banned Books Week to be Observed with Events and Activities from Sept. 25 Through Oct. 2

To raise awareness regarding the censorship of books, many exhibits and activities are being planned at local libraries during Banned Books Week, Sept. 25 through Oct. 2. The theme of this year’s Banned Books Week is “Celebrate Your Freedom to Read.” For information on upcoming Banned Books Week programs and events, visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>. For general information on Banned Books Week, visit <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/>.

Ten “Stories of Faith” Events Scheduled for September

Ten events are scheduled in September as part of the Library’s program “Stories of Faith: Religion and Diversity in San Diego.” For more information about the program, see page 1. For information about “Stories of Faith” events in October through January, visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

• [Saturday, Sept. 4 at noon to 3 p.m.](#)

Writing Workshop: “Expressions Unlimited” —

Through poetry, fiction and personal narratives, a group of teenaged immigrant girls will explore issues of identity, race and culture. The writing workshops will give the program participants the opportunity to develop and express their perspectives in a concrete and meaningful way. At the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library’s Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave. (619) 641-6123.

• [Thursday, Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m.](#)

Journey of Abraham – A panel discussion on the common roots and shared faiths of the Semitic religions of Baha’i, Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. In the auditorium of the Joan Kroc Institute of Peace & Justice at the University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (858) 260-4600.

• [Saturday, Sept. 11 at 4 p.m.](#)

Make a Joyful Noise: The Sweet Balm of Sacred Music

– The program will provide a powerful means for people to cross boundaries of race, class and religion and to promote a collective definition of self and community. From foot-stomping, hand-clapping celebration of the divine to more meditative aural contemplation on the nature of faith, adherent to spiritual beliefs have always raised their voices together in praise and glory. The program will comprise of a wide range of musical genre from traditional gospel to Christian rock, hip-hop praise and klezmer music. At the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library’s Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave. (619) 641-6123.

• [Sunday, Sept. 12 at 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.](#)

Baha’i Faith Center Open House – Spiritual services, exhibitions, and orientations to the history and practices of the faith. At the Baha’i Faith Center, 6545 Alcalá Knolls Drive. (858) 268-3999.

• [Monday, Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m.](#)

Film: “Santitos” – An enchanting, humorous tale about Esperanza, a fervently devout young widow who leaves the confines of her provincial village for the seedy back alleys and brothels of urban Mexico and Los Angeles in search for her missing daughter. Guided by visions of St. Jude, who appears in the grease of her oven door, Eperanza embarks on an incredible odyssey that puts her faith to the test while awakening her to a new world of sensuality and independence. In the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St. (619) 236-5800.

• [Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 6:30 and 11 p.m.](#)

Full Focus: Stories of Faith – KPBS’ “Full Focus” program will feature a segment that tells the stories of immigrants to San Diego who fled persecution in their native countries. These people are now enjoying the freedom to worship, often for the first time, without fear of imprisonment or death. Focusing on three ethnically diverse individuals and their families, the 15-minute documentary explores their hopes and dreams for life in this country, and the role freedom of religion now plays in their lives. The program is produced by Pacific Media Ministry, a San Diego-based, nonprofit television production company which specializes in programming based on faith and values. The show can be seen on KPBS Channel 15.

• [Saturday, Sept. 18 at 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.](#)

Buddhist Temple Open House – Spiritual services, exhibitions and orientations to the history and practices of the faith. At the Buddhist Temple of San Diego, 2929 Market St. (619) 239-0896.

• [Monday, Sept. 20 at 6 p.m.](#)

Film: “E Minha Cara” – A mythopoetic feast of self-discovery that crosses three continents and three generations, “E Minha Cara” traces the filmmaker’s journey to Salvador Da Bahia, the African heart and soul of Brazil, as he seeks the identity of the spirits who haunt his dreams. Paralleling the journey his mother made 20 years before to Tanzania in search of a mythic motherland, the film incorporates an innovative sound design that uses rap and hip hop. At the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library, 5148 Market St., (619) 527-3405.

• [Monday, Sept. 27 at 6:30 p.m.](#)

State & Religion in the Middle East: Would Parallels Ever Meet? – A presentation by Dr. Uzi Rabi, visiting Israeli professor of Middle Eastern and African history at Tel Aviv University. The program is sponsored by the Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies at SDSU. In the Central Library auditorium, 820 E St. (619) 236-5800.

• [Wednesday, Sept. 29 through Monday, Nov. 22](#)

Evviva la Madonna Nera – This exhibit explores the to the Black Madonna in Italy and by Italian Americans with collages that focus on the origins, the centuries-old devotion, and contemporary Italian American women’s reclamation of La Madonna di Tindari, La Madonna della Libera, and other Black Madonnas. The exhibit will be on loan from the Italian American Museum in transitional residence at the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, City University of New York. In the lobby of the Central Library, 820 E St., (619) 236-5800. A special related discussion, titled “Dark Mother and Black Madonnas,” will be held Wednesday, Oct. 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library.

“Stories of Faith” is Part of the California Council for the Humanities’ Communities Speak Project

Library Awarded 13 Documentary Films from National Video Project

The San Diego Public Library is one of 22 libraries in California to be awarded a collection of 13 documentary films from the Human Rights Video Project. The Human Rights Video Project was created by National Video Resources in partnership with the American Library Association's Public Programs Office (with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Ford Foundation). The project is dedicated to increasing the public's awareness of human rights issues through documentary films. The videos are available for home use or by community and educational groups and include public performance rights. The collection is housed in the Central Library's Media Center, which includes a collection of more than 10,000 VHS tapes, 1,500 DVDs, as well as audio books on a wide range of subjects. Titles in the collection include:

- **"Behind the Labels"**: Globalization and the exploitation of women's labor in the United States and Saipan.
- **"Bombies"**: Efforts to remove 90 million cluster bombs illegally dropped by U.S. in Laos during Vietnam War.
- **"Books Not Bars"**: Youth organize against incarceration of the young and advocate for educational resources.
- **"Calling the Ghosts"**: Rape and torture as acts of war; Muslim and Croat women speak before a United Nations tribunal.
- **"Every Mother's Son"**: Mothers of three victims killed by police officers organize for justice.
- **"Going to School"**: Parents seek education rights for disabled children in Los Angeles; integration, special education and support services are explored.
- **"Justice and the Generals"**: Families of four murdered church women in El Salvador seek justice in U.S. courts.
- **"Life and Debt"**: How globalization and International Monetary Fund policies impoverish the Third World through the example of Jamaica.
- **"Long Night's Journey into Day"**: Truth, reconciliation and justice in post-apartheid South Africa; healing after violent conflict and war.
- **"Promises"**: Israeli and Palestinian children meet under occupation.
- **"State of Denial"**: Failure of South African government to address AIDS and the organizers who do.
- **"Well-Founded Fear"**: A look at political asylum in the United States from the point of view of those seeking and those granting asylum.
- **"Media That Matters Film Festival"**: Collection of short videos and new media on human rights issues.

For information about these and other videos in the Library collection and for up-to-date information on film screenings and other library programs, visit the Library on the City's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> or call the Central Library's Art, Music & Recreation Section at 619-236-5810, touch 7.



The film "Life and Debt" focuses on Jamaica as a prime example of the impact economic globalization can have on a developing country. "Life and Debt" is one of 13 documentaries the Library recently was awarded for its growing video collection.

Festival and Silent Auction to Benefit Pacific Beach-Taylor Branch Library

Cabaret by the Bay, the second annual Pacific Beach Library Festival and Silent Auction, will be held on Sept. 26 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Catamaran Resort Hotel, 3999 Mission Blvd. The event will include an afternoon of festivities on beautiful Sail Bay including hors d'oeuvres, beverages, live music and great silent auction items. Bicycles, hotel stays, and restaurant gift certificates as well as specialty baskets are included in this year's silent auction. All proceeds will benefit the Pacific Beach-Taylor Branch Library's resources and programs. For information: call Dona Barber at 858-483-3382 or Lynda Tickey at 858-336-9561.

Mission Valley Library Goes to the Dogs for Special Demonstration

Paws'itive Teams trainers will demonstrate how they teach their dogs-in-training to accomplish a wide variety of amazing tasks. Paws'itive Teams, a local nonprofit organization, provides service dogs for persons with disabilities, enabling these persons to live more independent lives and to achieve an enhanced quality of life. The public is invited to the free event, which will take place Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Mission Valley Branch Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. Call 858-573-5007 for more information.

Even More Great Events and Programs!

For the very latest information about Library events, exhibits, activities and other programs, visit your local library or check out the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

