



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.sandiegolibrary.org> and clicking on "News & Events."

DECEMBER 2006

VOLUME 4



New Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch to Open Dec. 2

A big crowd of local citizens of all ages is expected for the grand opening of the new Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library on Saturday, Dec. 2. The free event will begin at 10 a.m.

The spectacular, 15,626-square-foot Serra Mesa-Kearny Branch replaces the 4,860-square-foot Serra Mesa Branch. The new library will directly serve more than 22,000 San Diego residents.

Some of the amenities included in the new library include:

- Large Children's Area with a whimsical design and large collection of books and other materials.
- Meeting and conference rooms to allow for both community meetings and small gatherings.
- Enclosed Computer Lab for quiet study and research.
- Three large courtyards for outdoor reading and other activities.
- Preschooler's Door to Learning Center, funded by the First Five Commission, which provides services for young children and their parents to share the pleasures of reading and learning
- Satellite office for San Diego Workforce Partnership's Metro Career Center, offering staff-assisted employment resources and on-site job search workshops.

The branch library has a collection of approximately 54,000 books and other media, and 40 computers that are available to the public. In addition, like all City libraries, the new location will offer free wireless Internet access.

The \$8.9 million project was designed by Coombs Architects & Planning and constructed by Jaynes Corp. Funding for the library came primarily from developers fees and \$1 million from the First Five Commission of

San Diego. The building includes green building technology and recycled materials. Per the community's request, the design borrows on the mission revival and craftsman styles. Windows are plentiful and provide varied views.

Located at 9005 Aero Drive, the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library will be open Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 8 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.

The library can be reached at 858-573-1396. For more information, visit the Library's web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

Information on Library Web Site Can Assist Immigrants Become Citizens

The Library now offers easy access to information for new American immigrants to help them adjust to U.S. culture and achieve permanent citizenship. The Library web site now includes pages with information about Library services and links to other web sites that can provide immigrants assistance.

San Diego serves a very diverse population of adults and their children from countries and cultures outside the United States. This page was created in an effort to assist in understanding and accessing resources that can help them adjust to U.S. culture and achieve permanent citizenship.

The new web pages are part of the Library's new Changing Faces of San Diego outreach program. The pages can be accessed directly by logging onto www.sandiegolibrary.org/services/newamericans.shtml.

Special Schedule in Effect for City Libraries During Holiday Season, Dec. 24 – Jan. 1

A special schedule for the City of San Diego Public Library will be in effect during the holidays, from Dec. 24 through Jan. 1. All libraries will be closed Dec. 24, 25 and 31, and Jan. 1. Many libraries will be closed throughout that week and other will be open special hours as follows:



TUESDAY, DEC. 26 & THURSDAY, DEC. 28

9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

- Central Library – 820 E St.
- Carmel Valley – 3919 Townsgate Drive,
- City Heights/Weingart Branch – 3795 Fairmount Ave.
- Mira Mesa Branch – 8405 New Salem St.
- Mission Valley Branch – 2123 Fenton Parkway
- Otay Mesa–Nestor Branch – 3003 Coronado Ave.
- Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch – 4275 Cass St.
- San Carlos Branch – 7265 Jackson Drive
- Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch, 5148 Market St.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27

Open Noon to 8 p.m.

- Central Library – 820 E St., 619-236-5800
- Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch – 5148 Market St.

Open 12:30 to 8 p.m.

- Carmel Valley Branch – 3919 Townsgate Drive
- City Heights/Weingart Branch – 3795 Fairmount Ave.
- Mira Mesa Branch – 8405 New Salem St.
- Mission Valley Branch – 2123 Fenton Parkway
- Otay Mesa–Nestor Branch – 3003 Coronado Ave.
- Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch – 4275 Cass St.
- San Carlos Branch – 7265 Jackson Drive

FRIDAY, DEC. 29 & SATURDAY, DEC. 30

Open 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

- Central Library – 820 E St.
- Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch – 5148 Market St.

Open 12:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

- Carmel Valley Branch – 3919 Townsgate Drive
- City Heights/Weingart Branch – 3795 Fairmount Ave.
- Mira Mesa Branch – 8405 New Salem St.
- Mission Valley Branch – 2123 Fenton Parkway
- Otay Mesa–Nestor Branch – 3003 Coronado Ave.
- Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch – 4275 Cass St.,
- San Carlos Branch – 7265 Jackson Drive, 619-527-3430

SATURDAY, DEC. 30

Open 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

- Central Library – 820 E St.
- Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch – 5148 Market St.

Open 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

- Carmel Valley Branch – 3919 Townsgate Drive
- City Heights/Weingart Branch – 3795 Fairmount Ave.
- Mira Mesa Branch – 8405 New Salem St.
- Mission Valley Branch – 2123 Fenton Parkway
- Otay Mesa–Nestor Branch – 3003 Coronado Ave.
- Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch – 4275 Cass St.,
- San Carlos Branch – 7265 Jackson Drive, 619-527-3430

City libraries not listed in the above will be closed the entire week. For information, contact your local library or visit the Library's web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

Free Films at Libraries



The Library presents a variety of free films, many of which are independent or foreign films not widely distributed. Others are classic and family-friendly movies. For more information about films being shown, visit the Calendar of Events on the Library's Web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

Educational Workshop to Look at Benefits of Home Ownership

The Library is pleased to present a free workshop on “**Buying a Home in San Diego.**” Buying a home is one of the largest financial investments you will make. Come and listen to a short presentation by Amber Anderson, chief operating officer and certified mortgage planning specialist for California Equities. Find out the true cost of renting.



Learn about the tax advantages to owning a home and facts about the housing “bubble.” Find out what makes up your FICO score and what lenders are looking for. After the presentation, there will be plenty of time for questions.

This workshop will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

To register or for more information, contact Business Resources & Technology Link at the Social Sciences section of the Central Library at 619-238-6630 or businesslink@sandiego.gov.

Examining Black Pan-Ethnicity: The Richness of Diversity in San Diego

Black people in San Diego come from many different countries and cultures. What are the similarities? What are the differences? How does this diversity influence the historical, cultural, political, and economic character of San Diego's black community? A community dialogue is in conjunction with Professor Jesse Mills's course on “African American Pan-Ethnicity” at the University of San Diego, will be held Dec. 4 at 4 p.m. at the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library, 5148 Market St.. For more information, call 619-527-3405 or email jessemills@sandiego.edu.

Cheryl Parry Art Exhibition “The Cloths of Heaven” Looks at Little Known Chapter of Irish History

The Library’s Visual Arts Program is presenting “**The Cloths of Heaven**,” an exhibition of paintings by artist Cheryl Parry at the Mission Valley Branch Library through Feb. 28, 2007. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

“The Cloths of Heaven” is the culmination of artist Cheryl Parry’s four-year exploration of one of the most shocking and, until recently, hidden chapters in the history of the Catholic Church in Ireland.

Between 1850 and 1996, 30,000 girls and women fell victim to the excessively puritanical, Church-dominated mores of the times. Judged unfit to live in Irish society for infractions as minor as being too pretty or flirtatious, they were banished to the convent-run Magdalene Laundries where many of them endured a lifetime of isolation, enslavement and suffering.

Many Magdalens who were unwed mothers were forced to give up their children up for adoption to Irish Catholic families in the United States. The discovery of the unmarked graves of 133 women on the convent grounds at the Magdalene Laundry in Dublin in the mid-1990s inspired wide-spread outrage and focused attention on this



Thirty thousand Irish women and girls were banished to the Magdalene Laundries where many endured a lifetime of isolation, enslavement and suffering.

little-known period in Irish history.

Parry’s exhibition re-interprets Irish poet W.B. Yeats’ love poem, “The Cloths of Heaven,” in the context of the Magdalene Laundries and includes oil paintings of faces and cloth, a video by the artist, and a performance art/dance developed with choreographer Patricia Maldonado and musician Robert Edwards.

The Mission Valley Branch Library is located at 2123 Fenton Parkway. For more information, call the library at 858-573-5007 or visit the San Diego Public Library’s web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

Tell Your Community Story at Digital Storytelling Station through June 2007

Beginning Dec. 2, San Diegans have an opportunity to share their stories of love through a storytelling project sponsored by the Library, KPBS and the Media Arts Center of San Diego. The project, housed at the downtown Central Library, invites the public to record their love stories on a three-to-five minute DVD through June 2007.

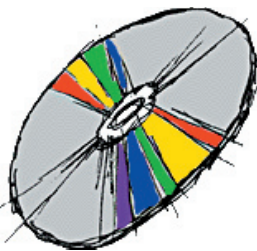
Whether you are familiar with movie-making or not, the **Digital Community Storytelling Station** can help you tell your story. Stories help define who we are and how we fit into the world we live in. The story station gives you an opportunity to spotlight something you deeply care about and will be available for others to see and hear. In the end, your story will be part of a growing collection that can help us all better understand one another and connect to the places in which we live.

The Storytelling Station is in the Arts, Music & Recreation section of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. A representative from the Media Arts Center will be on site between 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, and 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Saturdays to help with the creation of your story. You can create a DVD story about how love has changed your life, or read a love letter you have received or written. We are still collecting stories that reminiscence

about neighborhoods, schools, jobs, family and tales of special interests and activities.

If you are interested in creating a digital story, you need to bring four things to your session:

- A story to tell.
- A CD with music to help reinforce the mood and message of your story.
- Photos, if you have them, to illustrate your story. (On a CD is the easiest way to import or your digital camera memory card, but we can also scan them)
- Home movies on DVD or VHS



If you don’t have music, photographs or video, you can still tell a story. The Library will provide a blank CD or DVD to take your story home with you. Sign up on the Media Arts Center web site at www.mediaartscenter.org or call 619-230-1938. Additional information can be found at www.sandiegolibrary.org or www.kpbs.org/interactive/features/onebook/love.

This project is sponsored in part by The Campaign for Love & Forgiveness, presented by KPBS, that explores how love and forgiveness can effect meaningful change in individuals and communities, and invites participants to share their stories about the roles, meaning and power of love and forgiveness in their lives and their world.

Exhibition Transforms Space into Eerily Futuristic Environment

Barbara Sexton's "On and Off" Exhibition will be on Display from Dec. 3 through Jan. 28

The Library will present an exhibition of work by San Diego artist Barbara Sexton, "On and Off," from Dec. 3, 2006, through Jan. 28, 2007, at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library. The exhibition is being coordinated under the auspices of the Library's Visual Arts Program.

An opening reception will be held Sunday, Dec. 10 from 1 to 4 p.m. Also, a special "Artist's Talk," where Sexton will discuss her work, will be held Saturday, Jan. 13, 2007, at 1 p.m. Both events and the exhibition are free and open to the public.

The conceptual sophistication, graphic power and technical perfection of Sexton's art have earned her a place in the top echelon of San Diego's artists. For "On and Off," which was conceived as a site specific installation for the library gallery, Sexton created wall-sized fabric-like panels imprinted edge to edge with digitally manipulated, photo-based imagery. Several of these measure 21 feet long by 8 feet high, in effect, transforming the exhibition space into an

eerily futuristic environment that surrounds and immerses the viewer. "On and Off" explores a number of thought-provoking issues related to science and human interaction, including the linkage between technology and psychology, and rational thought and emotion.

Sexton's extensive background in mathematics can be

seen in her references to the binary system (i.e., the way computers work with data using the only numbers "1" and "0"). In addition, she is fascinated by electromagnetism and the tension between unseen forces and their observed effects, which, she notes, "...speak, in some manner, to emotional and intellectual forces being created by the attraction of polar opposites and repulsion of the identical." Sexton's art is also complex aesthetically and her roots as a painter serve her well. In formal terms these works are impressively nuanced and have stunning visual impact.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch is located at 4275 Cass St. For more information, contact the library at 858-581-9934 or visit the San Diego

Public Library's web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.



San Diego artist Barbara Sexton's "On and Off" exhibition will be at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library from Dec. 3 through Jan. 28.

Variety of Special Holiday Events to be Held at Local Libraries

Lots of fun holiday events will be held at City libraries. Some are listed below. For a full schedule, check the Library's web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

Dec. 2 at Noon – Poway Youth Opera will perform holiday favorites and Broadway tunes at Rancho Peñasquitos Branch, 13330 Salmon River Road, 858-538-8159.

Dec. 5 at 10 a.m. – Doris Smith and her Marionette Circus will perform a holiday program at the College-Rolando Branch, 6600 Montezuma Road, 619-533-3902.

Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m. – The Music Box Storytellers will perform a Dinosaur Holiday Puppet Show at the Tierrasanta Branch, 4985 La Cuenta Drive, 858-573-1384.

Dec. 9 at Noon – A Winter Holiday Party with games, singing and photos with Santa, will be held at the Logan Heights Branch, 811 S. 28th St.

Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. – A Holiday Open House with entertainment and refreshments will be held at Rancho Peñasquitos

Branch, 13330 Salmon River Road, 858-538-8159.

Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. – the San Diego County Recorder Society will present a holiday program at the Central Library, 820 E St., 619-236-5800.

Dec. 15 and 22 at 3:30 p.m. – Vicki Norman will perform a holiday concert at the Central Library, 820 E St., 619-236-5800.

Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. – Black Storytellers of San Diego will present a Holiday Storytime Extravaganza at the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch, 619-527-3405.

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 www.sandiegolibrary.org.

