

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."

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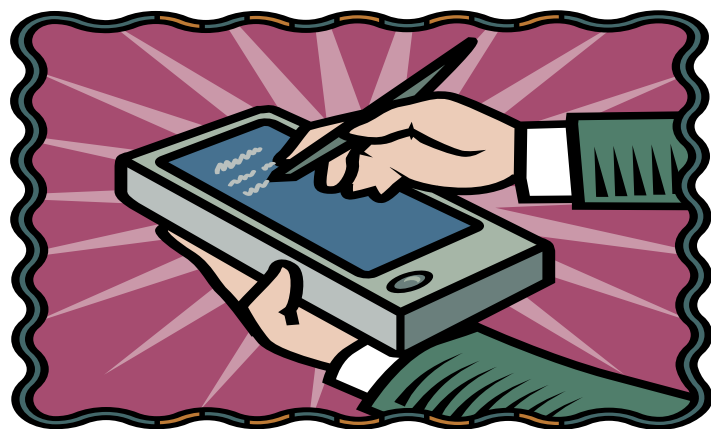
Entire Library System Goes Wi-Fi

San Diego Public Library One of First in Nation to Offer Free Wireless Internet Access System Wide

The City of San Diego Public Library has become one of the first major library systems in the country to offer free wireless Internet access at all of its locations. The service is available at the Central Library and all 34 branch libraries located throughout San Diego.

Members of the public, with their own laptops or PDAs configured for wireless Internet, can now have unlimited access to the Internet when visiting the libraries. Anyone with portable computers that have 802.11g network interface cards can use the service.

"This is a major technological milestone for the San Diego Public Library," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "Free wireless Internet access can assist people doing research, obtaining information and simply checking and sending email. We're very excited about being able to offer this service to the public."



Although all City libraries have Internet-connected computers, often times they are so popular that patrons have a long wait before they can use them.

In addition, the City currently has a number of new library projects either under construction or in the planning stages. Plans call for all of these facilities to offer free wireless Internet access as well upon completion.

"Stories of Faith" Series Concludes with Two Great Events

"Stories of Faith: Religion and Diversity in San Diego," the major, five-month program by the Library, concludes in January with two important events that explore the role of religion as a pivotal filter through which San Diegans can better understand their history and changes to their communities. With more than 40 events, "Stories of Faith" has enabled San Diegans 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. All the events are free and open to the public. Events in January include:



reflecting their own spiritual beliefs. At the Pacific Beach-Taylor Branch Library, 4275 Cass St., 858-581-9934.

Thursday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m.

Helen Edison Lecture Series – Diana Eck, author and professor of comparative religion and Indian studies at Harvard University, delivers the annual Helen Edison Lecture sponsored by UCSD Extended Studies and Public Programs. Her topic is titled "On Common Ground: A New Look at America's Religious Diversity." At the Price Center Ballroom, UCSD, 9800 Gilman Drive, 858-822-0510.

Friday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m.

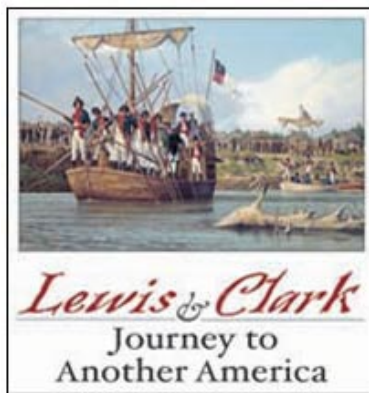
Culminating Event – Join us for the exciting conclusion of Stories of Faith, including a screening of the documentary "Las Abuelas: Latina Grandmothers Explain the World & Other Stories of Faith." At the City Heights-Weingart Branch Library's Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave., 619-641-6123.

Through Sunday, Jan. 30

Stories of Faith: Altar Project – The exhibit features works by 11 of San Diego contemporary artists, a cutting-edge architect and a collaborative group of art furniture makers, who were invited to create contemporary altars

Free Six-Week Course Explores America of Lewis & Clark

Learn more about the amazing journey of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with a special free educational course. "Lewis & Clark: Journey to Another America" is a six-week Oasis program focusing on explorers Meriwether



Lewis and William Clark and the North America of their time. Class participants will read original essays and view slides and historical documents.

Weekly discussions, led by George Rion, will be informative and challenging. Discussions will explore the connections between issues of the 19th

century America and issues of early 21st century America. Participation includes the text book. Rion holds degrees from Kansas State University, did his graduate work at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and the University of Chicago, and has studied Lewis & Clark Expedition under both a Basic Education Grant and a Teacher-Scholar Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The program will be held on six consecutive Wednesdays, from Jan. 19 through Feb. 23, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Point Loma-Hervey Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St. Major support for "Lewis & Clark: Journey to Another America" has been provided by The National Endowment for the Humanities. Additional support has been provided by the Missouri Historical Society and the May Department Stores Company. The event is sponsored by the Library and the Friends of the Point Loma Library.

OASIS is a national nonprofit educational organization designed to enhance the quality of life for mature adults. Offering challenging programs in the arts, humanities, wellness, technology and volunteer service, OASIS creates opportunities for older adults to continue their personal growth and provide meaningful service to the community. Space is limited for this event. For more information or to register, call 619-531-1539.

Two Chamber Music Concerts in January

As part of the "Pleasure of Your Company Chamber Music Series," two performances will be held in January at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive. On Jan. 16 at 2:30 p.m., the San Diego Chamber Music Society will perform quintets for winds and piano by Mozart and Beethoven. The concert is free, although donations are appreciated. On Jan. 30 at 2:30 p.m., pianist Endre Hegedus will perform works by Chopin. Tickets are \$10 and sold at the door. Children under 12 are free.

Free Films at Libraries



Each month 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.

- Jan. 3: "**Por la Libre**" (2000) – Bittersweet comedy explores one family's conflicted history. In Spanish with English subtitles. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 3: "**Jungle Book**" (1967) – Last film supervised by Walt Disney himself. This endearing feature is based on Rudyard Kipling's children's story. Tierrasanta, 6:15 p.m.
- Jan. 8: "**Captain January**" (1936) – An orphan is raised by a crusty lighthouse keeper. San Carlos, 10 a.m.
- Jan. 10: "**Kitchen Stories**" (2004) – Observances of kitchen routines of single men. In Swedish and Norwegian with English subtitles. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 15: "**The Aristocats**" (1970) – Disney animated classic with cats inheriting a fortune and a greedy butler plotting to get rid of them. San Carlos, 10 a.m.
- Jan. 16: "**Maria Full of Grace**" (2004) – Harrowing story of girl who smuggles heroin into U.S. In Spanish with English subtitles. Central Library, 2 p.m.
- Jan. 19: "**We Don't Live Here Anymore**" (2004) – An indiscretion between two close friends tears down their respective marriages. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 22: "**Scooby Doo's Greatest Mysteries Movie**" (1998) – A collection of four episodes of the TV cartoon series. San Carlos, 10 a.m.
- Jan. 24: "**Shattered Glass**" (2003) – True story of journalist Stephen Glass, the twenty-something whiz kid. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 24: "**George of the Jungle**" (1997) – Disney's live-action version of the 1960s cartoon. Tierrasanta, 6:15 p.m.
- Jan. 28: "**Raiders of the Lost Ark**" (1981) – First of the Indiana Jones action/adventure films. Mission Valley, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 29: "**An Extremely Goofy Movie**" (2000) – When Goofy's son Max enrolls in college, Goofy copes by enrolling as well. San Carlos, 10 a.m.
- Jan. 31: "**Tarzan**" (1999) – Disney animated version of the book by Edgar Rice Burroughs. Tierrasanta, 6:15 p.m.
- Jan. 31: "**Zhou Yu's Train**" (2004) – Dreamlike love story set against vast landscape of modern China. Central Library, 6:30 p.m. In Mandarin with English subtitles.

Libraries Closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 and 2

All City of San Diego Public Library locations will be closed on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 and 2. All book drops will remain open as a convenience for the public to return items. Libraries will resume normal operating hours on Monday, Jan. 3.



Six Performances Scheduled for Winter/Spring Concert Series

The Library's Winter/Spring Concert Series will begin Jan. 9. San Diego Public Library began its Chamber Music Series in the mid 1950s. Critical and popular response encouraged the Library to increase the scope to its present status of a Fall Concert Series and a Winter/Spring Concert Series each usually consisting of six concerts. This program is funded by a donation from the Herbert Feurerisen Family and other public donors. Donor letters are sent with the master concert schedule, usually in July and December.

These concerts are very important to the musicians as they provide a venue for them to perform locally. The community has responded enthusiastically as shown by steadily growing attendance by musicians, music lovers, music appreciation students and residents. Concerts are held at the Central Library, 820 E St., in the third floor auditorium on Sundays at 2:30 p.m. and usually last about one hour. All events are free to the public.

The **Jan. 9** concert will feature **Marylou Rector**,

soprano soloist. Ms. Rector completed her college work and two years of musical study in Germany prior to her many years of singing experience in the Los Angeles area. She has been a featured soloist with the San Diego Festival Chorus and Orchestra in Vivaldi's Gloria and Schubert's Mass in G. Ms. Rector will perform with Janet Mathews on the viola and Ilana Mysior at the piano. The program will include works by Mozart, Brahms, Donizetti, Debussy, Barber and Uhl.



Soprano soloist Marylou Rector will perform Jan. 9.

The rest of the Winter/Spring Series is as follows:

- **Jan. 23:** Guitarist Chris Carelli will perform works by Sanz, Bach, Weiss, Sor, Carcassi, Tarrega and others.
- **Jan. 30:** The San Diego Chamber Music Society will play the piano Quintets of Mozart and Beethoven featuring pianist Pamela Monroe
- **Feb. 13:** The Shanghai Ensemble, featuring Zeping Cai, famous Chinese soprano, will perform works by Haydn, Dvorak, Chopin and others.
- **Feb. 27:** The Gennaro Trio— featuring Ilana Mysior, piano; Ronald Goldman, violin; and Mary Lindblom, cello — will perform short complete trios by Hovhaness, Arbos, Stutschewsky, Dvorak and local La Jolla composer Furstenthal.
- **March 6:** Kristine Wei, piano, will perform works by Bach, Shostakovich, Beethoven and Hindemith.

For more information about the concerts, call the Central Library at 619-236-5800.

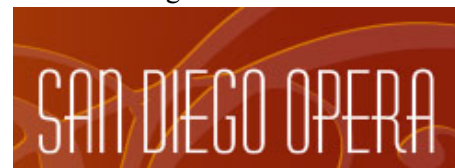


Dr. Ron Shaheen, left, and Myron Fink will lecture about the San Diego Opera's 2005 productions at the Central Library and branch library at Scripps Miramar Ranch respectively.

Preview Presentations Look at San Diego Opera's 2005 Season

Have questions about opera but were afraid to ask? Special free preview presentations for the 2005 San Diego Opera season will be held at two libraries. Opera preview lectures help you prepare for each of the San Diego Opera's 2005 productions and integrate both background and plot synopses of the repertoire into presentations that are both entertaining and illuminating.

The lectures will be held at both the Central Library, 820 E St. in downtown San Diego and the Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive.



Dr. Ron Shaheen, a music instructor at the University of San Diego, will speak at the Central Library and composer Myron Fink will lecture at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch. The lecture schedule is as follows:

Die Fledermaus, by Johann Strauss

- Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. – Scripps Miramar Ranch
- Jan. 25 at 2 p.m. – Central

Così fan tutte, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

- Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. – Scripps Miramar Ranch
- Feb. 15 at 2 p.m. – Central

Simon Boccanegra, by Giuseppe Verdi

- March 14 at 7 p.m. – Scripps Miramar Ranch
- March 22 at 2 p.m. – Central

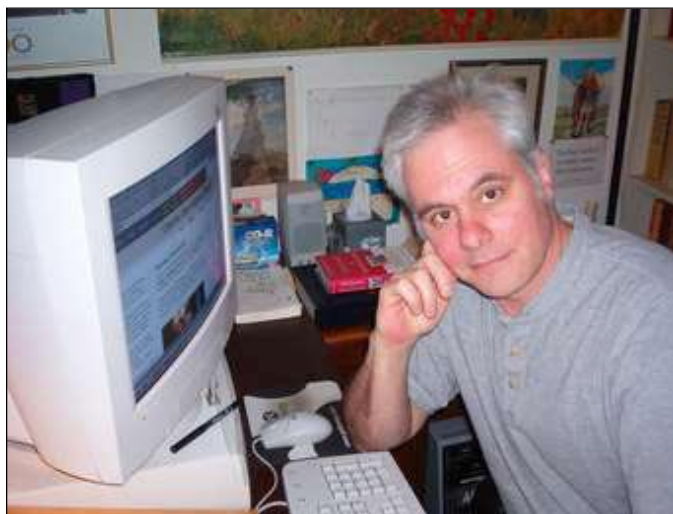
Vanessa, by Samuel Barber

- April 4 at 7 p.m. – Scripps Miramar Ranch
- April 12 at 2 p.m. – Central

La Bohème, by Giacomo Puccini

- April 25 at 7 p.m. – Scripps Miramar Ranch
- May 3 – at 2 p.m. Central

For more information about the productions, visit the San Diego Opera's Web site at <http://www.sdopera.com>.



Author Charles Harrington Elster at work in his home office in San Diego.

Charles Harrington Elster to Discuss Recent Book “Test of Time” at Mission Hills Branch

Charles Harrington Elster will discuss his recent book “Test of Time: A Novel Approach to the SAT and ACT” on Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Mission Hills Branch Library, 925 W. Washington St., 619-692-4910.

Elster is a writer, broadcaster and logophile—a lover of words. Born in New York City in 1957, he earned his B.A. cum laude from Yale in 1981 and now lives in San Diego with his wife and two daughters.

His books include “Verbal Advantage,” a comprehensive vocabulary-building program for adults that has been called “a guided tour of the English language”; “Tooth and Nail” and “Test of Time,” vocabulary-building novels for high school students preparing to take the college entrance exams; “There’s a Word for It,” a lighthearted look at unusual – and unusually useful – words; and “The Big Book of Beastly Mispronunciations,” which William Safire of *The New York Times* called “the best survey of the spoken field in years.” Elster was pronunciation editor of the acclaimed seventh edition of *Black’s Law Dictionary* and a consultant for *Garner’s Modern American Usage*. He is an occasional guest contributor to the “On Language” column of *The New York Times Magazine*, and his articles have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The San Diego Union-Tribune*, and other publications.

Elster has also been talking about language on the radio since 1985. He has been interviewed on NPR’s “Talk of the Nation,” “Weekend Edition,” and “All Things Considered” and been a guest on hundreds of radio shows around the country. From 1998 to 2003 Elster hosted a weekly public radio talk show on language called “A Way with Words” with fellow verbivore Richard Lederer.

Information About Book Clubs at Libraries Now on Web Site

The 20 book clubs that meet regularly at San Diego Public Library locations are now listed on the Library’s Web site. The book clubs range from one analyzing mystery novels to another that focuses on the works of writer Jane Austen. While some of the clubs are for adult readers, many others welcome children and teens. All the clubs are open to new members and usually meet once or twice a month. Although the libraries host these events, the clubs are run independently.

Libraries that currently host book clubs include Allied Gardens-Benjamin, Carmel Valley, Central Library, La Jolla-Riford, Mira Mesa, Mission Hills, Mission Valley, North Park, Pacific Beach-Taylor, Point Loma-Hervey, Rancho Peñasquitos, Scripps Miramar Ranch, Tierrasanta, University Community and University Heights. For a complete list of book clubs meeting at libraries, visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>. The link to the book clubs can be found under “Library Services.”

Get to Go Behind the Scenes at the Central Library During Free Tours

Ever wonder what’s lurking in the dark depths of the Central Library’s two basement levels? You can find out first hand. Free tours of the downtown facility are conducted twice monthly with a behind-the-scenes look on the first and last Saturdays of each month at 3 p.m. Highlights on the tours include:

- Rare visits to the building’s two basement levels that contain more than 60 percent of the library’s collection, including a few hidden treasures.
- Historical information about the Central Library and future plans for the new Main Library.
- Sneak peeks at how the library has served the public for five decades.

Each tour is limited to 15 people to allow participants an up-close and personal experience. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 619-236-5817 or by signing up at the Literature Desk of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.



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>.

