



## THE LIBRARY CONNECTION

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 [www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library) and clicking on "News & Events."

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# Local Authors Show Off Talents in Library Exhibit

Each year the San Diego Public Library honors local authors who have published a book the previous year. There is always a great variety of books, from children's stories to mysteries to nonfiction to reference works. The writers themselves range from first time authors to ones who have published many tomes.

"It's important to recognize the accomplishments of local authors and the magnitude of talent we have in San Diego," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "Many of the books end up in the Library's permanent collection."

A special invitation-only reception for the authors will be held on Jan. 31. The exhibit of works will be on display on the Central Library's first floor throughout February.

## Free Wireless Internet Access Available at Two Branch Libraries

Two branches of the City of San Diego Public Library now offer free wireless Internet access to patrons. Anyone with portable computers that have 802.11b network interface cards can now log onto the Internet at both the Mission Valley and the Point Loma/Hervey branches.

These are the first public libraries in San Diego County to provide wireless Internet access to patrons.

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. Plans are in the works to eventually offer wireless access at all City libraries. There is one catch to the service: Library staff are not experts in wireless technology. Although the service is provided free, the public will have to learn how to use from experts outside the library.

The Mission Valley Branch is located at 2123 Fenton Parkway, 858-573-5007. The Point Loma/Hervey Branch is located at 3701 Voltaire St., 619-531-1539.



## Chalmers Johnson to Receive Library's 2004 LOLA Award

Author and retired political science professor Chalmers Johnson will receive the Library's 2004 LOLA (Local Author Lifetime Achievement) Award on Jan. 31. The award is presented annually to a writer who has a distinguished writing career and whose work has provided significant enrichment to the San Diego community.



Born in 1931 in Arizona, Johnson earned a B.A. in economics and an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Berkeley. He first saw Japan and Korea in 1953, when he served in the Navy during the Korean War., and he lived and worked in Japan with his wife, anthropologist Sharon K. Johnson, nearly every year

between 1961-98. From 1962-88, he taught political science at Berkeley, and then moved to UCSD. He retired in 1992. At Berkeley he was chairman of the Center for Chinese Studies from 1967-72. Johnson has written numerous articles and reviews and more than a dozen books on Asian subjects. For "Blowback: The Costs and Consequences of American Empire," he received the 2001 American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation. His latest book, "Sorrows of Empire: Militarism, Secrecy, and the End of the Republic" was published this month.

He has been honored with fellowships from the Ford Foundation, Social Science Research Council and Guggenheim Foundation, and he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1976. He was chairman of the academic advisory committee for the PBS television series "The Pacific Century," and played a prominent role in the PBS "Frontline" documentary "Losing the War with Japan." Both won Emmy awards. In 1994, Johnson co-founded the nonprofit Japan Policy Research Institute to promote greater public awareness and understanding of Japan's role in world affairs, and of Asian area studies. He currently serves as the institute's president.

## More Students to Receive Homework Assistance Through Online Tutor Services

Thanks to a \$100,000 federal grant, the Library will soon be able to offer free online homework assistance to students in fourth through 12<sup>th</sup> grades at all its locations and for people at home. Currently, the Library offers the tutor.com service only Mira Mesa, Otay Mesa and Pacific Beach/Taylor branches and the Central Library.

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 in an online classroom 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.

Thanks to the grant, which was secured by U.S. Rep. Randall Cunningham, libraries other libraries in the County will also receive Tutor.com services. Look for more details about when the expanded service will available in a future issue of *Library Connection*.

## Free Class Teaches Fashion and Design Through Computers

A computer training class that explores fashion and designers will be held Feb. 24 in the Central Library's Computer Lab. Hosted by staff from the Library's Art, Music and Recreation section, the class limited to 20 participants and reservations are required. Sign-up on or after Feb. 1. For more information, contact the Computer Lab at 619-238-6621

## Homebuying Seminar to be Held at Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library

Two free seminars to help first-time homebuyers learn how to purchase a home will be held at City libraries in February. The Path to Home Ownership Begins @ your library™ is a multi-year public education and awareness campaign responding to the well-documented desire of the overwhelming majority of Americans to own a home. The program is a collaborative effort between the American Library Association, and Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. The first will be held Feb. 7 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Skyline Hills Branch, 480 S. Meadowbrook Drive, 619-527-3485. The second will be held Feb. 23 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library, 5148 Market St. To register, visit the Web site: <http://www.wellsfargolibrarianseminars.com>.

## Coming Attractions



Each month the Library presents a variety of films, many of which are independent or foreign films that are not widely distributed.

**Feb. 1: "I Capture the Castle"** (2001) – When a castle's rightful heirs arrive, a family of squatters sees a chance to improve their fortune by marrying off two daughters to the young men. Central Library, 2 p.m.

**Feb. 2: "Morlang"** (2001) – Julius Morlang is a successful artist whose wife confesses to a brief affair. Based loosely on a true story, the film is a chilling, psychological drama about jealousy, betrayal and revenge. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 10: "Man on the Train"** (2002) – A grizzled gangster/thief takes up with an elderly teacher and the two men soon discover that they each might have been better suited for the other man's way of life. In French with English subtitles. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 15: "Ali Zaoua: Prince of the Streets"** (2000) – Set against the cruel street world is a sensitive, poetic evocation of the emotions of the protagonists. Winner of more than 40 international film festival awards. In Arabic with English subtitles. Central Library, 2 p.m.

**Feb. 17: "Swimming Pool"** (2002) – Sarah, a famous mystery author, accepts an offer to stay at her publisher's home in France. The publisher's daughter Julie unexpectedly arrives and Sarah's prim and steely English reserve is jarred by Julie's reckless, sexually charged lifestyle. Their interactions begin to influence Sarah's creative process, as Sarah finds herself drawn into a real-life mystery. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 23: "Hop"** (2002) – Inspired by a folktale, Justin, a young immigrant from Burundi, hatches a plan to reunite with his deported father, enlisting the aid of a crotchety, but goodhearted former radical and his devoted housekeeper. In French and Flemish with English subtitles. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 28: "The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T"** (1953) – Ted "Dr. Seuss" Geisel conceived and wrote this cult classic, live action comedy film about a boy transported to the mysterious and musical world of the evil Dr. Terwilliker. Central Library, 1 p.m.

**Feb. 29: "A Natural Born Gambler"** (1916) – Silent short starring Bert Williams as a member of a society that pretends to be against the gambling that they love. As part of the program, UCSD Professor Camille Forbes, Ph.D., who will discuss her research on Williams, an extraordinary black vaudeville comedian who rose to popularity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Central Library, 2 p.m.

## Central Library to Welcome Author Kristal Brent Zook

The Library, in cooperation with the Center for Cultural and Ethnic Studies at National University, will host an event with author Kristal Brent Zook, Ph.D. The event will take place on Feb. 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St., in downtown San



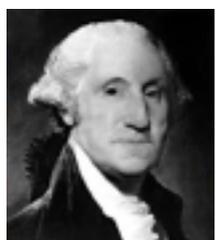
Diego. Zook is a scholar and journalist who has written about popular culture, race, gender and politics for over a decade. Her writings on film, television and culture have appeared in numerous major newspapers and magazines. She is currently a contributing writer for *Essence* and an adjunct professor in the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University. Zook's first book, "Color by Fox: The Fox Network and the Revolution in Black Television," was published by Oxford University Press in 1999. In it, she explored the politics of race and representation in shows such as "In Living Color," "The Fresh Prince of Bel Air," "Martin," "New York Undercover," "Living Single," "Roc" and "South Central."

## Two Classical Music Concerts to be Held at Central Library in February

The Winter Concert Series will continue with two programs in February. On Feb. 8, Laurel Kelly, soprano, and Chris Allen, piano, will perform music by Hahn, Grainger, Colbran and Reichardt and Tarrago. On Feb. 22, Felix Olschofka, violin, and Karen Follingstad, piano, will perform works by Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. Both concerts will be held at 2:30 p.m. in the Central Library's auditorium.

## Entertaining Lecture to Explore San Diego Opera's Production of "The Pearl Fishers"

Get to know San Diego Opera's upcoming production of "The Pearl Fishers" with an fun, entertaining lecture in the Central Library's auditorium on Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. The San Diego Opera production will be performed at the San Diego Civic Theater in February.



## All Libraries to be Closed on Presidents Day

All City libraries will be closed on Monday, Feb. 16 in observance of Presidents Day. As a convenience, all books drops at libraries will remain open to return library materials.

## Book Discussion Series to Focus on African-American Works

The Library, in association with the California Center for the Book, will present the three-part "Self Expression: A Harlem Renaissance Book Discussion" series. Camille Forbes, Ph.D., professor of African-American literature at UCSD, will facilitate discussions of three authors' efforts to share their talents and black social thought to an accepting society beyond their own communities. The featured books will be:

- **Feb. 3** – "Passing" by Nella Larsen. Occupying a narrowly defined space in black society while unable to fully participate in the world at large, a young, fair-skinned African-American woman resorts to "passing" for white to escape likely impoverishment.
- **Feb. 17** – "Back No More" by George Shuyler. Distinctly modern and American, the plot involves a scientific process discovered by a brilliant black physician, Dr. Crookman, whereby all Negroes can be irreversibly changed into whites for a fifty-dollar fee.
- **March 2** – "The Ways of White Folks" by Langston Hughes. Stories in this volume focus mainly on blacks whose lives are controlled by white-dominated conventions and standards, and through satire, irony, or subtle protest, expose the misunderstandings and hypocrisy that so often lead to white denial of black humanity.

All three programs are free and will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St., in downtown San Diego.

## Giclee Art Printing to be Discussed at Mission Valley Branch Library

As part of the Library's continuing series of free art lectures, Justin Martens, president of ThePrintMaker.net, will discuss "Giclees: The New Fine Art Print." ThePrintMaker.net specializes in giclee (pronounced "zhee-clay") printing. Martens will discuss how the process works, how to identify a quality print and how to market these prints in today's art world. The series is presented by the Library and the La Jolla Art Association. The program will be held at the Mission Valley Branch, 2123 Fenton Parkway, 858-573-5007.

# Seussentennial!

On March 2, 2004, the world will celebrate the 100th birthday of Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel (1904-91), one of the most beloved children's writers of all time and a longtime resident of San Diego. The Library will have a series of Seussentennial events, programs and activities from Feb. 28 through March 5. Look for more information in the next issue of the *Library Connection* newsletter.

## Library Provides Information to Help Parents Better Understand Technology

For many parents, understanding how their children use technology to learn at schools and libraries can be a tremendous task. The Library is helping make the process easier with workshops and a new web page designed to teach parents how their children use computers and the Internet.

The innovative Parents, Children & Technologies program provides online information about the kinds of technology children are using, what the Internet is and how it works, and how a parent can help a child learn using technology. Also, as part of the program, the Library has developed a series of workshops that will be taught in Library computer labs. Each module addresses a particular topic related to technology and children's education that parents may want to learn more about. The web site has a "Workshops" area with links related to module topics.

The web page and information about the workshops can be found on the web site ([www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library)) by clicking on "Services" and choosing "Parents, Children & Technologies." The program was made possible by a \$20,000 grant from Verizon SuperPages.

## Eight-Week African-American Culture Course to be Hosted by Library

The Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library will host a free, eight-week, credit-bearing, college-level class sponsored by SDSU's Africana Studies Department. "African-American Cultural Exposure: The Legacy of Resistance and Resilience" will be held every Thursday from Feb. 5 to April 1 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The course is open to interested community people, lifelong learners and library patrons including high school students. The class will include lectures, films and lively discussion about the history, literature and culture of African American people in the United States. Classes will be taught each week by professors of Africana Studies from SDSU who are top scholars in their respective fields and are volunteering their time and expertise to the project. Topics include "African Culture," "African American History & Literature," "Reparations & Repatriation," "Black Nationalism," "The Black Family," "The Arts" and "Beauty Culture."

Course materials will be given free to the first 50 who sign up. Those currently enrolled in college may receive one unit of credit for attending the class. Those not currently enrolled may apply for extension credit. Please contact Dr. Shirley Weber 619-594-6550 for information on college credit. Please call the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library 619-527-3405 or SDSU's Africana Studies Department 619-594-6550 to register for the class. The Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch is located at 5148 Market St.

## Environmental Library's Sixth Anniversary Open House

The sixth anniversary of the City's Environmental Library will be celebrated on Friday, Jan. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open to the public, the event will include free tours of the City's "Green Building" and demonstrations on how to use the Environmental Universe database. The City's Environmental Services and Library departments jointly operate the Environmental Library. The Environmental Library collection consists primarily of professional and technical materials in the area of landfill operation, municipal and solid waste collection and disposal, and environmental programs such as hazardous materials management, recycling, vermicomposting, and sustainable/ing. A large pamphlets chures is of charge. The San Diego Library's Patrons may green build-selection of and bro-available free Environmental books and included in ego Public catalog. consult the catalog at the Environmental Library, any San Diego Library location or online at the library's web site ([www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library)).



Materials may be checked out from the Environmental Library with a San Diego Public Library card. Environmental Library books may be checked out or returned to any Library branch upon patron request. Located at 9601 Ridgehaven Court, Suite 130 in Kearny Mesa, the Environmental Library is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m. For information, call 858-573-1213.

## City Ballet to Perform "Carnival of the Animals" at City Heights Library's Performance Annex

"Carnival of the Animals," a program of the City Ballet of San Diego, will be performed twice at the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library's Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave., on Friday, Feb. 13 at 9:30 and 11 a.m. The program includes music composed by Camille Saint-Saens and narration written by Ogden Nash. For reservations to the free program, call 619-641-6123.

## 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>.

