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 and clicking on “News & Events.”

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Library to Celebrate National Poetry Month with Three Special Events in April

To celebrate National Poetry Month, the Library will hold special events. Inaugurated in 1996 by the Academy of American Poets, National Poetry Month brings together libraries, publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, schools and poets around the country to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture.

Below are some of the scheduled activities at City libraries:

- **On Saturday, April 3**, a Poetry Writing Workshop will be taught by Susan Luzzaro, a professor of English at Southwestern College, in the third floor Wangenheim Room of the Central Library, 820 E St., in downtown San Diego. The workshop will run from 2 to 4 p.m. and is limited to 20 participants. Class members will be asked to bring 20 copies of one of their poems. Ms. Luzzaro and class participants will provide critiques. To register for the program, contact Pamela Sanderson at 619-236-5847.

- **On Sunday, April 18**, local poet Linda Brown will read from her new book “Journey with Beast: Poems 1970-2004” at the Carmel Valley Branch, 3919 Townsgate Drive. In her 25th year as a library worker, Ms. Brown currently works at the Allied Gardens/Benjamin Branch Library where she curates art exhibits. She will read some of her poems and sign copies of her book, which will be for sale. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 858-552-1668.

- **On Friday, April 23**, more than a dozen local poets will read some of their poems with musical accompaniment for adults and teens during a Poetry Celebration Open House. Some of the guests will include poet and playwright Marillyn Ball, Bluestocking Books’ poet-in-residence Davey Smith, San Diego City College instructor Terrie Relf, physics teacher Tom Oliver, and satirical poet Fred Longworth. The event will take place from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Mission Valley Branch Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. For more information, call 858-573-5007.
UCSD Political Science Professor to Discuss Pledge of Allegiance at Mira Mesa Branch

Dr. Peter Irons, UCSD political science professor, will speak on the history of the Pledge of Allegiance as an instrument meant to heal the divisions of the Civil War and to “Americanize” the immigrant population, while in the increasingly diverse religious environment enjoyed in the United States today, the Pledge appears to be an endorsement of Christianity. Dr. Irons, in collaboration with religious scholars and theologians, has filed an Amicus Curiae Brief on behalf of the respondent for the case Elk Grove Unified School District vs. Newdow, 02-1624, docketed for March 24 before the Supreme Court. Dr. Irons is also the director of the Earl Warren Bill of Rights Project at UCSD. He is the prize-winning author of “Jim Crow’s Children: the Broken Promise of the Brown Decision,” and six other books. He is a practicing civil rights attorney, and was lead council in the 1980s in the successful effort to reverse the WWII criminal convictions of Japanese Americans who challenged the curfew and relocation orders. The event will be held April 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mira Mesa Branch, 8405 New Salem St., 858-538-8165.

“Katya Kabanova” Opera to be Discussed

Leoš Janáček’s “Katya Kabanova” will be discussed as part of the Library’s continuing series of entertaining lectures that explores the San Diego Opera’s 2004 series. The program will be held April 13 at 2 p.m. in the Central Library’s auditorium. In one of Janáček’s most successful works, “Katya Kabanova” combines both romantic and 20th century music to create an intensely atmospheric and eloquently compelling drama. The San Diego Opera production will be staged April 17, 20, 23 and 25 at the Civic Theater.

Final Concert of Winter-Spring Series on April 18 with Pianist Scott Pratt

The Library’s Winter-Spring Concert Series will conclude on April 18 at 2:30 p.m. with pianist Scott Pratt. He will perform an all-Gershwin program in the third-floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St.

Fedrico Garcia Lorca’s “Yerma” to be Performed April 17 and 18

Fedrico Garcia Lorca’s play “Yerma” conjures a dramatic portrayal of life’s irony, injustice and agony. Adapted by Evelyn Diaz Cruz, adjunct professor of the University of San Diego’s Theater Arts Program. This classic tragic story is reset in the Caribbean and uses conga music to speak to the heart of the work. Yerma, a young wife in an oppressive situation, believes that only by having a child will her suffering be alleviated. The play will be performed at the Library’s City Heights Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave., on April 17 and 18 at 2 p.m. both days. For tickets information and reservations, call 619-641-6103.

Arias and Chamber Music to be Featured at Carmel Valley Library Program

“Amadeus of Soloists” will be held April 17 from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Carmel Valley Branch Library, 3919 Townsgate Drive. Soprano Alla Markovich will sing arias from Puccini, Verdi and Tchaikovsky, and faculty members of the California Institute of Music will play chamber works by Brahms and Mendelssohn. Tickets can be requested by calling the California Institute of Music at 858-259-2503. They will also be available at the door. A donation of $12 for adults and $10 for students is suggested. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Carmel Valley Library.
Children’s Author Darren Shan will be at Tierrasanta Branch Library on April 26

Popular children’s author Darren Shan, writer of the “Cirque du Freak” book series, will discuss and sign copies of his books on April 26 at 6 p.m. at the Tierrasanta Branch Library, 4985 La Cuenta Drive, 858-573-1384. Shan, 31, was born Darren O’Shaughnessy in London of Irish parents. At the age 6, he moved to Limerick, Ireland, with his parents and younger brother, and has lived there ever since. He began writing as a teenager and finished his first novel, the unpublished “Mute Pursuit,” when he was 17. His initial breakthrough was an adult novel, “Ayumarka,” published in 1999. In 2000, his first children’s book – “Cirque Du Freak,” which he’d written as a fun side-project – was published in between his two adult books. The first book in the series entitled “The Saga of Darren Shan” attracted rave reviews and much media attention, especially when the movie rights to the first two books were bought by Warner Bros.

Special Performance to Benefit Library’s City Heights Performance Annex

The Angahara Academy of Performing Arts will perform in a benefit gala for the Library’s City Heights Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave., on April 3. The program will feature Shivali Panchal performing “Journey Towards Siva: A Bharatanatam Presentation of Stories About Siva.” Tickets are $20 in advance, $25 at the door, and $15 for seniors and students. The admission includes dinner catered by the Star of India restaurant. Dinner from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., with the performance beginning at 8 p.m.

Author Herman Rosen to Discuss New Book “Gallant Ship, Brave Men”

Author Herman E. Rosen will discuss and sign copies of his new book “Gallant Ship, Brave Men: The Heroic Story of a WWII Liberty Ship” on April 21 at noon at the Rancho Bernardo Branch Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive, For more information, call 858-538-8163.

Public Invited to Browse Their Local Libraries During National Library Week, April 18-24

April is a special time to celebrate libraries and rediscover all that they have to offer. The San Diego Public Library invites all San Diegans to check out their local library during National Library Week, April 18-24. First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries – school, public, academic and special – participate. This year, the San Diego Public Library joins other libraries across the country in encouraging patrons to learn more about the exciting range of new and traditional resources available. Many special events are planned at all City libraries. National Library Week 2004 marks the fourth year of the Campaign for America’s Libraries, a multi-year public education campaign sponsored by the American Library Association. For more information about library events, locations and hours, stop by your local library or visit the Library on the City’s Web site at http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library.

Thai Stories Told Through Puppet Show

Join local children’s author and La Jolla resident Carolyn Marsden for an exciting adventure into the culture of Thailand as she reads from her new children’s book, “Silk Umbrellas,” presents a puppet show based on a traditional Thai folktale, and Thai dancing. Children will make banana boats following the presentations. The program will be on April 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the La Jolla/Riford Branch Library, 7555 Draper Ave., 858-

Silverwood to Perform at Mission Valley Library

The music trio Silverwood will perform a “Musical Tour of the World” on flute, guitar and violin/fiddle on April 1 at 7 p.m. at the Mission Valley Branch Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway.

Passport Service to be Available at Point Loma Library on April 24

The Library and the Peninsula Community Service Center will host a Passport Event at the Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St., on April 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Individuals seeking to apply for a passport can process their application the day of this event. Call 619-531-1539 or pick up a flier at the library for details.

Libraries to be Closed on Easter Sunday

All City libraries will be closed Sunday, April 11. As convenience for patrons, book drops will remain open to return items.
La Jolla-Riford Branch
Re-Opens with Major Community Celebration

With grand fanfare, the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Library Annex of the La Jolla-Riford Branch opened to the public on March 27. The expansion more than doubles the size of the original library, which opened in 1985. Speakers at the ceremony included Mayor Dick Murphy, Councilmember Scott Peters and City Library Director Anna Tatár. Also speaking at the event were Joan and Irwin Jacobs, who contributed $3.5 million for the project, and Harle Montgomery, who donated $1 million from the Kenneth and Harle Montgomery Fund. Bob Boone, who chaired the capital campaign to raise the $4.7 million for the expansion, was the master of ceremonies. Also playing a major part were current Friends of the La Jolla Library Tom Sauer and past president Bobby Foushee. Mayor Murphy presented a proclamation making March 27, 2004, Friends of the La Jolla Library Day in San Diego.

Once the 24,745-square-foot library re-opened, hundreds of people crowded into the building to see the changes, check out materials, use computers and apply for library cards. The multi-level addition has a children’s library, young adult area, Garth Mezzanine, La Jolla history room, reading and rooms, and stack areas for a 120,000-book capacity. There are also 32 Internet-connected computers and free wireless Internet access. The expansion project was part of the City’s $312.3 million program to build or improve 24 libraries throughout San Diego.
Works by Artist Faiya Fredman to be on Display at Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library

An exhibit of works by La Jolla artist Faiya Fredman will be on display at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library from April 3 through May 16. The exhibit includes recent sculptures and photographic works by the artist. For more than three decades, Ms. Fredman has produced a consistently original and elegant body of work, deriving her inspiration from universal phenomena and timeless places. These include cycles of life, nature and the cosmos; ancient astronomy and mythologies; and archaeological sites and artifacts. A special artist reception will be held April 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. The free show and reception are sponsored by the Library’s Visual Arts Program. The Pacific Beach-Taylor Branch Library is located at 4275 Cass St. For more information, call 858-581-9934.

Free Workshop “Print Advertising that Gets Results” to be Held at Central Library

The Library will host a FREE workshop on print advertising. This workshop will cover the preliminaries to advertising: creating a business identity and analyzing your target market. It will move on to cover the design and use of a range of print materials (business cards, brochures, newsletters), show how and where to use magazine and newspaper advertising, and provide information on how to use direct mail advertising. The workshop will be held Wednesday, April 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m., in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St., downtown. The workshop will be conducted by Chris Cavanaugh, graphic designer/owner of The Christopher Company. To register or for more information, contact Business Resources & Technology Link at the Social Sciences section of the Central Library at 619-238-6630, email businesslink@sandiego.gov.

Fern Street Circus to Perform Free Program at City Heights Library on April 24

The Fern Street Circus returns to the Library’s City Heights Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave., for a free outdoor performance on April 24 at 2 p.m. Reservations are not required, and seating is first come, first served. Lawn chairs and blankets are welcome.

Board of Library Commissions to Meet April 7

The Board of Library Commissioners meet at 9 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Central Library, 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. The board consists of seven members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. Each member serves a two-year term. The board is responsible for considering all policy matters regarding the development and operation of the City’s library system and serves in an advisory capacity to the City Manager. The board’s next meeting is scheduled for April 7.

Sylvia Telafaro to Host Celebration of Poetry and Spoken Word on April 14 and 28

Celebration of poetry, spoken word, and the performing arts, every second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch, 5148 Market St. 619-527-3405. All forms of spoken word and artistic expressions are welcome and unlimited. Guest host Sylvia Telafaro animates the sharing and stimulates the communal spirit from 6 to 8 p.m. on April 14 and 28.

Magician Craig Stone to Mesmerize Carmel Mountain Ranch Library

On April 28, magician Craig Stone will perform at the Carmel Mountain Ranch Branch Library, 12095 World Trade Drive. Studying the art of magic since the age of 12, magician Craig Stone has been entertaining professionally for nearly two decades. His diverse performing background ranges from his outdoor theater show performed for hundreds of thousands, to cruise ships and various television appearances. Stone has appeared at thousands of private and corporate events, and was selected for an exclusive engagement to entertain the Royal Family of Saudi Arabia. The program will be begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 858-538-8181.

Free Wireless Internet Access Now Available at Five Branch Libraries

The Library now offers free wireless Internet access to patrons at five branches, including Carmel Mountain, La Jolla/Riford, Mission Valley, Pacific Beach/Taylor and Point Loma/Hervey. Anyone with portable computers that have 802.11b network interface cards can use the service. In January, the San Diego Public Library became the first library system in the county to provide free wireless access when it was offered at both the Mission Valley and the Point Loma/Hervey branches. These five locations remain the only public libraries in the San Diego region with wireless Internet service. The Library plans to eventually offer wireless access at all 35 locations. Although the service is provided free, the public will have to learn how to use wireless technology from experts outside the library.

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 website at http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library.