



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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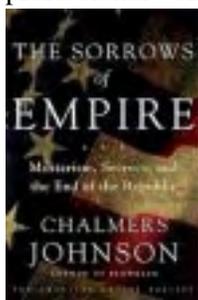
## Authors Johnson, Pezzullo and Chacón to Discuss Works at Libraries

In May, the Library will host programs with three authors: retired political science professor and award-winning writer Chalmers Johnson; novelist, poet and playwright Ralph Pezzullo; and university professor, poet, playwright and novelist Daniel Chacón. Both Johnson and Pezzullo are San Diego authors. All programs are free.

Chalmers Johnson was the recipient of the Library's annual Local Authors Lifetime Achievement (LOLA) Award this year. In "**Sorrows of Empire: Militarism, Secrecy and the End of the Republic**," he explores the new militarism that is transforming America and compelling its people to pick up the burden of empire. Reminding us of the classic warnings against militarism, Johnson uncovers its roots deep in our past. Turning to the present, he maps America's expanding empire of military bases and the vast web of services that supports them. He offers a vivid look at the new caste of professional warriors who have infiltrated multiple branches



Chalmers Johnson



of government, who classify as "secret" everything they do, and for whom the manipulation of the military budget is of vital interest. Johnson is president of the Japan Policy Research Institute, a nonprofit research and public affairs organization devoted to public education concerning Japan and international relations in the Pacific. He taught for 30

years at the Berkeley and San Diego campuses of the University of California. *On Saturday, May 22 at 2 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St, 619-236-5800.*

Ralph Pezzullo's latest novel is "**Eve Missing**," a gritty detective mystery set in New York City. In the story, retired cop Tony Annicelli (aka Smokey) is hired to look for a young model Angela Bowman (Eve) who has suddenly disappeared. A year earlier Eve was



Ralph Pezzullo



working as a prostitute when she was taken in by a sophisticated designer named Danielle Gioux. Smokey falls hard for Danielle the first time he meets her. He soon finds out Danielle attacked Eve the night before Eve disappeared. Then Danielle goes missing, too. Pezzullo is an award-winning playwright and screenwriter. He has had more than

a dozen plays produced across the country and is the recipient of five Jerome Foundation playwright fellowships. He has written for television and radio, and is author of "At the Fall of Somoza" and numerous published poems. Other novels by the author include "The Testimony of Miguel" and "The Resurrection of Thomas Leer." *On Tuesday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the third floor Wangenheim Room of the Central Library, 820 E St., 619-236-5800.*

Daniel Chacón's "**And the Shadows Took Him**" is a novel about William and Rachel Molina, who have three children, and live their version of the American dream in a Fresno barrio. When William gets a better job in Oregon, however, it's the family's chance to enter the ranks of the middle class. They soon flee the crime and ethnic tensions of Fresno only to discover that their new community won't overlook the Molinas' Latino background. Chacón is also author of



Daniel Chacón



"Chicano Chicanery" as well as various short stories and plays. His fiction has appeared in several journals, and his plays have been produced in California and Oregon. He has a master's in fine arts from the University of Oregon and currently teaches creative writing at the University of Texas at El Paso. *On Friday, May 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the City Heights-Weingart Branch Library, 3795 Fairmount Ave., 619-641-6100.*

Copies of all three books will be available for purchase and signing by the authors at the end of the presentations.

## Variety of Music Styles to Entertain San Diego Library Patrons in May

Several musical programs will provide a variety of entertainment for patrons in May. Pianist Wayne McEvelly will perform **Mozart's 17 piano sonatas** in a relaxed atmosphere at the Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St., 619-531-1539. The program will be held over three days – May 1, 8 and 15 – at 2 p.m. each day. Relaxed occasion to hear all the Mozart sonatas; with some commentary. McEvelly will also provide commentary about the sonatas. Donations are accepted.

Special **Cinco de Mayo celebration** performances will be held at the Library's City Heights Performance Annex, 3795 Fairmount Ave., on May 5 at 2 p.m. Julian Ambriano y Sus Hermanos will provide norteña music, and Ballet Folklórico Quetzal will also perform. Cinco de Mayo commemorates the defeat of the French by Mexico at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. For more information about the celebration, call the Performance Annex at 619-641-6103. The **Jazz Quartet** will play May 22 at 3 p.m. at Rancho Peñasquitos Branch, 13330 Salmon River Road, 858-538-8159.



The **Mesa College Guitar Ensemble** will perform its annual Spring Concert at the Clairemont Branch Library, 2920 Burgener Blvd, 858-581-9935. The program will include a diverse blend of classical pieces and folk songs as well as pop music from the 1960s British Invasion. Join the fun at the library on May 26 at 6:30 p.m.

### Teen Rally and Art Burst at City Heights

The Teen Rally and Art Burst will be a special recreational and informational event for teens On May 1 at the Library's City Heights Performance Annex, 619-641-6100. Among the activities and attractions will a talent showcase, dance and music workshops, teen pregnancy prevention information, health workshops, drawings for prizes, food vendors and booths of community organizations. Come show your individual talents at this funfilled event. There will be Dance and Music Workshops, Health Workshops, arts and crafts, free drawings, and food. The event will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Dig for Ancient Creatures at Malcolm X Library

A free program will offer children a chance to find fossils and learn about the history of marine life on May 22 at 9:30 a.m. The dig takes place in an area next to the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library, 5148 Market St. The program, which also includes an informational overview, is held in cooperation with the San Diego Natural History Museum. Reservations are required. Call 619-527-3405 and make reservations.

## Coming Attractions



Each month the Library presents a variety of films, many of which are independent or foreign films that are not widely distributed. For an up-to-date schedule of films, check the Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> or visit your local library.

### Tierrasanta Branch Celebrates 20 Years

The public is invited to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Tierrasanta Branch Library with a special event on Saturday, May 22 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Local group the Stillwater Boys will perform bluegrass, Irish music, folk and country. Refreshments, provided by the Friends of the Tierrasanta Branch Library, will be served. The event is free.

### Self Esteem Seminar to be Held at Clairemont Library

The Clairemont Library will offer a free parenting seminar titled: "Self Esteem – A Child's Best Defense: Part II" on May 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The interactive program will provide parents and caregivers with the basic tools necessary to enhance a child's self-esteem, prepare a child for school and guide the child towards positive behaviors. Participation in Part I of the seminar is not necessary to attend Part II. The seminar will be taught by Mary Helen Gembala, a family therapist with 12 years experience working closely with families focusing on parenting and self-esteem issues. The branch is located at 2920 Burgener Blvd. Call 858-581-9935 to register.

### Opera Preview Lecture on Verdi's "La Traviata"

The Library hosts a series of entertaining lectures about the San Diego Opera's 2004 repertoire. The next lecture will focus on Giuseppe Verdi's "La Traviata" at the Central Library, 820 E St., on May 4 at 2 p.m. Long before the movie film "Moulin Rouge," Verdi dazzled audiences by setting this popular romance to stunning music. One of the best-loved of all operas, "La Traviata" makes a triumphant return to the stage of San Diego Opera at the Civic Theater in May.

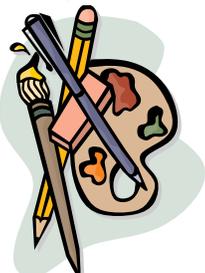
### City Ballet to Perform Mother's Day Celebration

The City Ballet of San Diego will perform May 9 at 6 p.m. at the Library's City Heights Performance Annex as part of a Mother's Day celebration. The program, titled "Stairway to Paradise and Beyond: A Tribute to George Balanchine," commemorates the 100th anniversary of the birth of Balanchine, the foremost ballet choreographer who died in 1983. The Performance Annex is located at 3795 Fairmount Ave., 619-641-6100.

## Art Exhibit at Mission Valley Looks at Magdalene Laundries

The Library is now presenting an exhibition by artist Cheryl Parry entitled “Maids and the Magdalene Laundries” at the Mission Valley Branch through May 31.

Ms. Parry focuses on one of the most shocking and hidden chapters in the history of the Catholic Church. Between 1850 and 1996, thousands of females 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 flirty, they were banished to the convent-run Magdalene Laundries where many of them endured a lifetime of isolation.

Through an ambitious and sensitive series of works that includes classically rendered paintings, assemblages of objects, performance and text, “Maids and the Magdalene Laundries” subtly and poetically explores the worlds of fantasy Ms. Parry believes the Magdalens were compelled to create in order to escape and transcend their harsh working conditions and physical and mental abuse.

A San Diego resident, Ms. Parry was born in Greenburg, Pa. She currently teaches English as a second language at the Mid-City Center Refugee Program of the San Diego Community College District.

The Mission Valley Branch is located at 2123 Fenton Parkway, 858-573-5007. The exhibit was produced by the Library’s Visual Arts Program, the exhibitions of which are made possible, in part, by a grant from the Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker Foundation, contributions from individuals, and volunteer efforts.

## San Diego River Day Events to be Held at Mission Valley Library

The Mission Valley Branch Library will host several events as part of the inaugural San Diego River Day on May 22 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. In partnership with its neighbors, Archstone Apartments and Shea Homes, the library will have a crafts program where kids can make fish kites, Ballet Neo will be performing as the Sandskippers jump rope team, a steel drum band will be featured and there will be a petting zoo. In the Community Room, the library will unveil a new permanent display of photographs of Mission Valley over the past 100 years. Trolleys rides between RiverFest events, including the stop at the library, will be free from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information about the San Diego River Day, visit the San Diego River Park Foundation Web site at <http://www.sandiegoriver.org/SanDiegoRiverDay.html>. The Mission Valley Branch Library is located at 2123 Fenton Parkway, 858-573-5007.

## “Looking at Lincoln” Exhibit to Focus on Political Cartoons of the Civil War Era

The Central Library will present a special traveling exhibit, “Looking at Lincoln: Political Cartoons from the Civil War Era” from May 3-28. The exhibition invites viewers to put aside 21<sup>st</sup> century assumptions and look at events through the eyes of people living in an era when racism was deeply ingrained in American life. In an age before radio, television, and the Internet, many Americans received news and expressed their opinions about politics through newspapers. Also, in conjunction with the program, the Library will show the film “The Lincoln Assassination” on May 9 at 2 p.m. in the Central Library’s auditorium. “Looking at Lincoln” is a traveling exhibit from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York. The Central Library is located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. For more information, call the library at 619-236-5800.

## Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Receives \$4,550 Grant for Summer Reading Program

The Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch was recently awarded a \$4,550.00 grant for this year’s Summer Reading Program. The grant was given to the Friends of the Malcolm X Library/Valencia Park by the Jacobs Family Foundation. Each year, numerous “Spirit of the Diamond” grants are given to neighborhood nonprofit agencies and organizations.

This is the third year that the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch has been a recipient of a “Spirit of the Diamond” grant. This year’s grant

request was written by Youth Services Librarian Kim Schmidt and former-Branch Manager Marc Chery.



*Friends of the Malcom X Library President Gina M. Jackson, left, and Friends Treasurer Faustine Wilson hold a \$4,550 check received from the Jacobs Family Foundation for the Summer Reading Program.*

## 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>.

