



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 website at www.sandiegolibrary.org and clicking on "News & Events."

December 2007

VOLUME 5

Exhibition of Works by Noted San Diego Artist John Abel

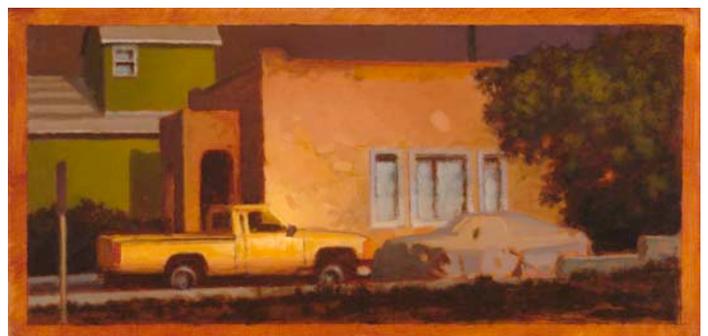
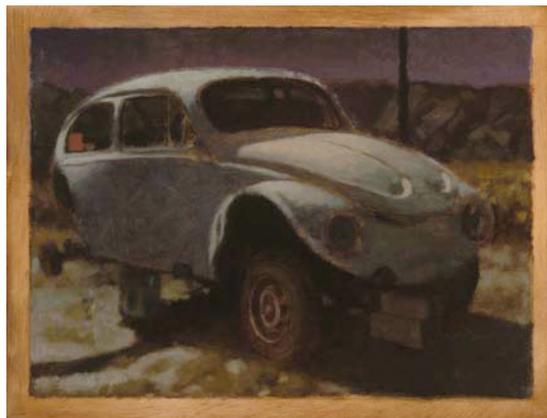


"John Daniel Abel: Paintings, Drawings, and Graphics, 1977 – 2007," an exhibition featuring nearly one hundred works by San Diego-area artist John Abel, runs December 9, 2007 through February 3, 2008, in the gallery of the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library. Exhibition-related events include an artist's reception on Sunday, December 9, from 1 to 4 p.m., and an artist's talk on Saturday, January 12, at 1 p.m., in the gallery.

Abel is an interesting, articulate, and solitary figure. He lives by himself in the relative isolation of San Diego's back country where the rugged terrain inspires him. He doesn't seem to be quite of our time, and, had he lived long ago, one could envision him as a poet, artist, and philosopher, probably in the Byronic tradition. Not surprisingly, Abel professes disdain for the theory-driven art that academics adore, but is pretty much incomprehensible to the man on the street. He is fond of railing, fortunately with a liberal dose of humor, against what he perceives as the pretentiousness of art historians and other representatives of the art establishment.

Abel's works, despite their relatively intimate scale, are powerful, beautiful and thought-provoking. His paintings are beautifully executed, the color is sublime, and they can be interpreted on a number of different levels. They speak to the poet in all of us and provide a welcome respite from the coldness of much of today's art.

This exhibition, which is accompanied by a full-color catalogue, will likely earn Abel legions of new admirers. Those already familiar with his art will be thrilled with his recent paintings, and will gain added insight into his work as a whole.



Holiday Events for Children & Teens

Listed below are some great holiday events at City libraries. Check the Library website at: www.sandiegolibrary.org for a complete schedule.

Saturday, December 1 at Noon

Stu Milligan, musician, juggler and author of the new children's book *Fragilly*, will perform a winter-themed program at Mission Valley Branch, 2123 Fenton Parkway, 858-573-5007.



Monday December 3 at 4 p.m.

Susan Richardson will conduct a Greeting Card-making workshop for children and young adults (ages 10-18). Materials supplied. Please sign up at Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch, 4275 Cass Street, 858-581-9934.

Thursday, December 6 and 20 at 4 p.m.

Make origami and cookie cutter ornaments (ages 6-12). Pre-register at Rancho Peñasquitos Branch, 13330 Salmon River Road, 858-538-8159.



Thursday, December 6 at 3:30 p.m.

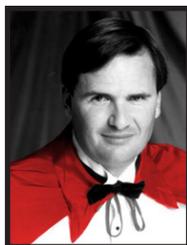
Joe Gandleman & Friends reveal the magical world of ventriloquism featuring a cast of wooden characters, music and lots of audience participation.

Thursday December 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Workshop (ages 13-17) to create bath salts, a perfect holiday gift. Pre-register at Rancho Peñasquitos Branch, 13330 Salmon River Road, 858-538-8159.

Tuesday, December 18 at 10:30 a.m.

Holiday Performance with *Amazing Dana the Magician* at Central Library, Children's Room, Downtown, 820 E Street, 619-236-5800.



City Libraries Holiday Schedule

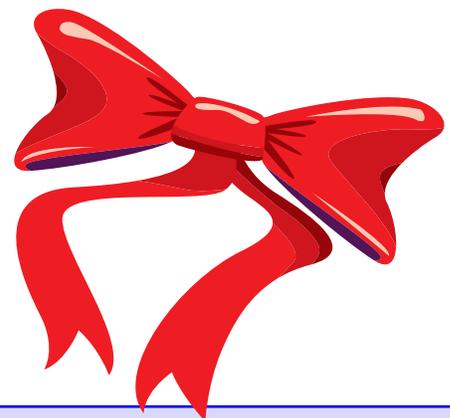
A special schedule for the City of San Diego Public Library will be in effect during the Holidays. All libraries will be open 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 24. All libraries will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 25 and Jan 1.

Only these libraries will be open December 26-31:

Central Library	619-236-5800
Carmel Valley	858-552-1668
City Heights/Weingart	619-641-6100
College-Rolando	619-533-3902
Mira Mesa	858-538-8165
Mission Valley	858-573-5007
North University Comm.	858-581-9637
Otay Mesa-Nestor	619-424-0474
Pacific Beach/Taylor	858-581-9934
Point Loma/Hervey	619-531-1539
Rancho Bernardo	858-538-8163
San Carlos	619-527-3430
Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa	858-573-1396
Valencia Park/Malcolm X	619-527-3405

All libraries will return to normal schedules on Wednesday, Jan 2. For more information, contact your local library or visit the Library's web site at:

www.sandiegolibrary.org



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:

www.sandiegolibrary.org



Enjoy Holiday Music @ Your Library

Sunday, December 2 at Noon

Poway Youth Opera will perform holiday favorites and Broadway tunes at Rancho Peñasquitos Branch, 13330 Salmon River Rd, 858-538-8159.

Monday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m.

The San Diego Women's Chorus will present selections from their holiday concert, "Songs for a Winter's Night" featuring classical, contemporary and holiday pieces at the Rancho Bernardo Branch, 17110 Bernardo Center Dr., 858-538-8162.

Monday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. at La Jolla/Riford Branch, 7555 Draper Ave, 858-552-1657 and

Wednesday, December 12 at 4:30 p.m. at Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch, 4275 Cass St., 858-581-9934
The Jackstraws will delight the whole family with holiday songs and costumes.



Wednesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Free Winter Holiday Concert for the entire family by the Mesa College Classical Guitar Ensemble at Clairemont Branch, 2920 Burgener Blvd, 858-581-9935 and **Wednesday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.** at North Clairemont Branch, 4616 Clairemont Dr, 858-581-9931.



The Pleasure of Your Company Chamber Music Series

Sunday, December 2, the La Jolla Renaissance Singers will present a program entitled "A Christmas Tour of the Hapsburg Empire – Sacred Music from Europe and the New World." This 27-voice choral ensemble, appearing in period costume, has been entertaining and inspiring audiences in San Diego since 1964.



A complimentary reception will follow the concert with an opportunity to meet the performers.

Sunday, December 2, 2:30 pm

Scripps Ranch Branch Library
10301 Scripps Lake Dr., 858-538-8154

MUSIC IS MY LIFE

What does it take to be successful in the music industry? Now is your chance to find out. Join us @ your library to find out:

Independent Distribution: Are You Being Heard?

Saturday, December 15:

1 p.m. College-Rolando Library
6600 Montezuma Rd., 619-533-3902
and

3 pm Valencia Park-Malcolm X Library
5148 Market St., 619-527-3409

Freedom's Journal: The First African-American Newspaper



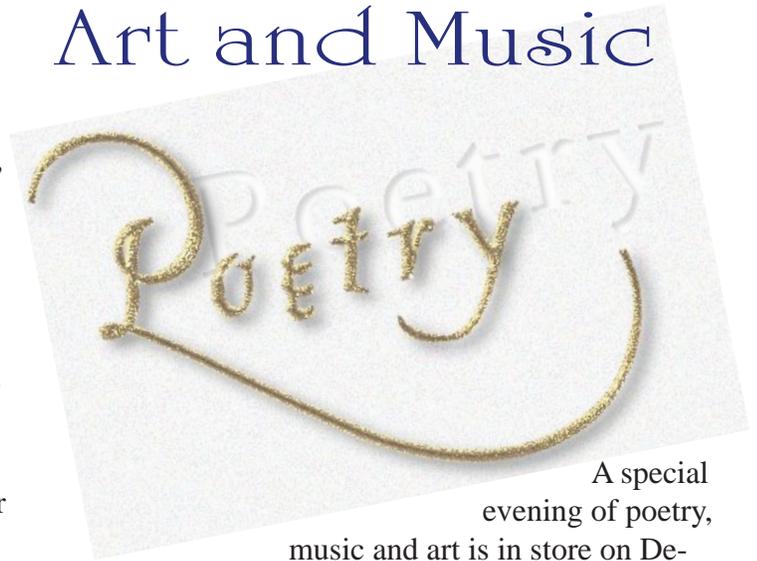
Author Jacqueline Bacon, a writer and scholar living in San Diego, will discuss her new book, *Freedom's Journal*, December 9, at the Central Library. This impressive book offers details about a key period of black community development and activism.

On March 16, 1827, *Freedom's Journal*, a forum edited and controlled by African-Americans, began publication in New York. National in scope and distributed in several countries, the paper connected African-Americans beyond the boundaries of city or region and engaged international issues from their perspective. It ceased publication after only two years, but shaped the activism of both African-American and white leaders for generations to come. The book traces the influence of this groundbreaking periodical; and uses the information in its columns to create a rich, detailed portrait of African-American life in the late 1820s.



Sunday, December 9 at 2 p.m.
Central Library, Third Floor Auditorium
Downtown, 820 E Street, 619-236-5800

Poetry Unlimited, Art and Music



A special evening of poetry, music and art is in store on December 5 at the La Jolla/Riford Branch Library. Featured poet is Johnnie Rennee N. Nelson who has published five volumes of poetry. Her latest, Classic Kwanzaa Poems, is an engaging collection of brief, free verse poetry celebrating Kwanzaa.

Featured musicians are Dominique (12 yrs old) and Valerie Kim (9 yrs old). Dominique plays the piano and flute and was recognized as a Superior Performer at the 2005 Spring Piano Festival. Valerie plays piano and violin. She made her Copley Symphony Hall debut as a featured performer in June.

The featured artist is Susan Lewitt. Her favored form has been sculpture in wood, clay and stone. Recently she has been doing drawings in colored pencil. Open readings follow the performances.

Wednesday, December 5 at 5p.m.
La Jolla/Riford Branch Library
7555 Draper Avenue, 858-552-1657

Free Parking For Central Library Patrons

When:

Saturdays - 9:30AM - 5:30PM

Sundays - 1 PM - 5 PM

Where:

5 Star Parking lot, adjacent to the Library at the southeast corner of Broadway & Eighth Avenue. Enter the lot from Eighth Avenue. The Library thanks **5 Star Parking** for making this free parking available.

Additionally, parking meters are not enforced on Sundays and after 6 PM on weekdays and Saturdays.

FREE Bus/Trolley for Kids Saturdays and Sundays (in the City of San Diego only)

Two children between the ages of 6 and 12, who are accompanied by an adult using the transit system (in the City of San Diego only), can ride free on Saturdays and Sundays -- a savings of \$1.75 to \$2.50 each way.

MAPPING STEM CELL RESEARCH: Terra Incognita

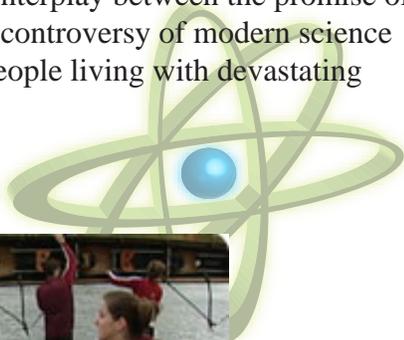
“I believe that genuine insight into complex issues like stem cell research can be achieved by connecting an audience to a compelling human story.”

---Maria Finitzo, Filmmaker



TERRA INCOGNITA THE PROMISE AND PERIL OF STEM CELL RESEARCH

Dr. Jack Kessler, a prominent neurologist, shifts his diabetes research to stem cell research when his daughter is paralyzed from the waist down after a skiing accident. *Mapping Stem Cell Research* brings the stem cell debate to the forefront and examines the constantly evolving interplay between the promise of new discoveries, the controversy of modern science and the courage of people living with devastating disease and injury.



Sunday, December 2 at 2 p.m.
Central Library, Third Floor Auditorium
Downtown, 820 E Street, 619-236-5800

ITVS Community Cinema Events are Free and Open to the public and feature advanced screenings of films coming to PBS on Independent Lens! We present films that engage audiences with resources to get involved in some of today’s key issues.

Classic Mexican Film Night: **Camelia** (1954, Mexico)



Camelia (María Félix) is a celebrated stage actress achieving great success playing the central character in “The Lady of the Camellias” at a local theater. However her private life mirrors the part she is playing on stage, a lost woman who sells her love to maintain her lifestyle. In the play, she is a heavy drinker, while in “real life” Camelia is a drug addict. In “Lady of the Camellias” Marguerite falls for Armand, a socialite who could be her salvation. Backstage, Camelia falls for Rafael (Jorge Mistral), a famous bullfighter who wants to take her out of the vicious circle she is in and make her happy. She sacrifices her love for him in to protect his future and reputation. Both Marguerite and Camelia know they are doomed.



Wednesday, December 12 at 6 p.m.
Mountain View/Beckwourth Branch Library
721 San Pasqual St., 619-527-3404

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 section on the Library’s website at www.sandiegolibrary.org.