Welcome to the Rancho Mirage Public Library…

As always, looking at this program guide would give the impression that the Library is actually attached to a performing arts center!

You will find:
- Film Screenings
- Concerts
- Lectures
- Book Discussions
- Storytelling for Children
- and much more!

You will also see, as you visit the Library beginning in early April, construction in our west parking lot. This is the installation of solar panels mounted on shade structures, as the City moves the Library into a new era of green energy production.

Of course we apologize for the disruption and, at times, limits on Library parking. However, we think you will join in the appreciation of this energy-saving installation that is so timely in our sun-filled Desert!

There is much to be enjoyed at the Rancho Mirage Public Library…and YOU are invited!

David Bryant
Library Director

Note: Any changes to this schedule, including additional programs, will be announced on our website: www.ranchomiraglibrary.org, which is always worth a visit to get the latest information about your Rancho Mirage Public Library.

People with disabilities are encouraged to attend Library programs. If you have special communication or access needs, please contact the Library at (760) 341-7323 four business days in advance of the event(s) you will attend.

Cover: The Living Desert, painting by Elaine Mathews, California Landscape Plein Air Painter
For more information about the artist, please visit elaineartist.com
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City of Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission Presents PLAY BALL!
Wednesday, April 1, 1 – 3 p.m.
PLAY BALL! The City of Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission celebrates the opening of the 2015 Major League Baseball season with a joyous mix of music, video snippets, original short comedic sketches, interviews, and more, featuring Bill Marx, Frank Furino, Scott Kiner, and David Bryant!

A food truck is available with baseball-themed treats, while the Library staff offers popcorn. The show is structured in nine short acts which will be “innings.” Expect Mayor Iris Smotrich to throw out the opening pitch and “PLAY BALL!” will be off and running, offering you fun and fast-paced entertainment!

PLAY BALL! is a celebration of our national pastime with tributes to the greats of the game and the great moments of baseball history.

Spring Book Sale
This big event will feature an enormous selection of gently-used books at affordable prices. The book sale raises money for the Library while promoting enthusiasm for reading!
Thursday, April 23, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday, April 24, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, April 25, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Poetry Workshops
Weekly Sessions on Wednesdays, April – June, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Poets interested in assignments, critiques, and readings are invited to join Dorothea Bisbas, City of Rancho Mirage Public Library Poet Laureate. The goal of these workshops is to encourage poetry based on personal experiences, language, and insights. More advanced poets share their techniques, including revision and details about getting poetry published.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Writers Guild monthly meetings at the Library. Each meeting has a speaker or a panel discussion with audience participation. For more information, visit palmspringswritersguild.org.

Ernie Witham, Popular Humorist and Author
Saturday, April 4, 2 – 4 p.m.
“The Humorous Adventures of an Everyday Guy”

Awards and Accolades Event
Saturday, May 2, 2 – 4 p.m.
Karen L. Twichell, Author and Motivational Speaker
Saturday, June 6, 2 – 4 p.m.
“Time to Promote It!”
City of Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission Presents

Second Annual Artists Studio Tour
Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
This event provides you with an opportunity to tour the homes and/or studios of Rancho Mirage artists. During this tour, you will be able to engage the artists and view or purchase art. Kick off this event at the Library, where you will register and receive passes, maps, and information on the studios/homes of artists.

DIY Publishing
Tuesday, April 28, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Author Ron Sharrow presents a no-risk “Do It Yourself” project to get your book published and into international distribution. Add color to your narrative, bring your characters to life, format your manuscript to enhance the reading experience, create a cover and convert it to a print-ready document which you can publish yourself without cost.

Art is Everywhere: A Tribute to Joel Hochberg
Friday, May 1, 2 – 4 p.m.
Documentary film maker Joel Hochberg used his camera and his wit to show us the Coachella Valley and most of all... its people.

Please join us as we honor the life and creative contributions of Joel! Colorful attire encouraged.
RSVP: joeltribute@gmail.com

Book Discussion Group
The Library’s book discussion group gathers on the second Friday of each month. For more information, send an email to the Book Maven at melissab@ranchomiragelibrary.org.

Friday, April 10, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Animal Farm, by George Orwell

Friday, May 8, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
The Blessing and the Curse, by Phyllis Greenbach

Friday, June 12, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Roads to Santiago, by Cees Nooteboom

Presented by the Rancho Mirage Public Library Foundation
Mark Jorgensen
Wednesday, April 8, 2 – 3 p.m.

Desert Bighorn Sheep, Wilderness Icon

Desert bighorn sheep are found in seven western states in the U.S. and six states in northern Mexico. Today their numbers are higher than they’ve been in decades, with 31,000 desert bighorn in the wild. Their story is one of supreme adaptation, human perseverance and dedication, and a rekindling of the spirit of wild North America.

The recent publication of the beautifully illustrated coffee table volume, Desert Bighorn Sheep, Wilderness Icon informs readers of the successes of wildlife management efforts to restore the wild populations of desert bighorn in the U.S. and Mexico. Concerted efforts by wildlife agencies, conservation organizations, hunters, citizen scientists, and land conservancies are resulting in increasing numbers of wild desert bighorn sheep.

William Butler
Desecrations: When Architecture and Art Collide

William Butler has given talks for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, through CSUSB College of Extended Learning, and for the Architecture and Design Council of the Palm Springs Art Museum.

There is passion afoot in the land—jealousy and hatred—and in these two sessions we will look at the roots of one man’s folly and the other man’s genius—Gordon Matta-Clark and Le Corbusier.

Gordon Matta-Clark
Wednesday, April 15, 2 – 3 p.m.

An artist who studied—then hated—architecture and used his art to both eviscerate and illuminate structure.

Le Corbusier
Wednesday, April 29, 2 – 3 p.m.

An architect who studied—and loved—painting and used his art to defile and diminish the work of a rival.

This series of lectures is made possible by a generous gift from Nancy and Tom Cunningham.
Yasmine Golchan Presents
Next Stop, Eternity
Monday, April 13, 2 – 3 p.m.

Producer, director, and co-writer of Next Stop, Eternity, Yasmine Golchan studied theater and film at both USC and UCLA. She founded the French Theater in Los Angeles and entertained audiences by producing, acting, and/or directing numerous comedies. Transitioning into films, Ms. Golchan went on to co-produce the Golden Globe-winning feature The Painted Veil, starring Ed Norton and Naomi Watts. Ms. Golchan is currently working on her next movie, Battle of the Sexes, which she is co-writing and directing.

Featuring Cathy Moriarty as Valentine, a woman reluctant to let go of the material world, and Seymour Cassel as Lawrence, a sarcastic angel with nothing on his mind but earning his wings, this short film takes a whimsical look at the bumpy ride from afterlife to eternity.

Jason Bruecks Presents Best of the Foreign Films

Film historian Jason Bruecks continues his screening of films that have won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film since its inception in 1957.

Through a Glass Darkly (1961)
Monday, May 4, 2 – 4 p.m.
Director: Ingmar Bergman
Swedish with English subtitles

Sundays and Cybèle (1962)
Monday, May 11, 2 – 4 p.m.
Director: Serge Bourguignon
French with English subtitles

8 ½ (1963)
Monday, May 18, 2 – 4 p.m.
Director: Federico Fellini
Italian with English subtitles
Idyllwild Arts Academy Presents
Music from the Pines
Tuesday, April 7, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
The Music Department of the Idyllwild Arts Academy presents an evening of listening pleasure with their performance of Music from the Pines. This concert features highlights of programs in classical, jazz, and musical theater presented on campus during the spring semester. Some of the brightest young students from throughout Europe, Asia, Australia, and North and South America attend Idyllwild Arts Academy and will perform in this program.

Hye Sung Choe, Flutist
Tuesday, April 14, 7 – 8 p.m.
A Korean-born flutist, Hye Sung Choe is the first and only recipient of the Artist’s Certificate in the woodwind department of the Eastman School of Music. She is also the winner of the 2007 National Flute Association’s Young Artists Competition (USA).

Ms. Choe holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music, where she studied with Bonita Boyd. Currently she teaches flute at Bethesda University of California and the California Institute of Technology.

International Classical Concerts of the Desert
Saturday, April 11, 4 – 6 p.m.
Julian Schwarz, Cellist
Single Tickets: $25
For tickets and/or information, call (760) 416-5355.

Presented by the Rancho Mirage Public Library Foundation
Ken Dahleen and His Big Band Staff
Saturday, May 16, 4 – 5 p.m.
Stan Kenton put the BIG in “big band” music! From his first orchestra in 1941 (with a mere 19 players) to his massive 39-piece Innovations in Modern Music Orchestra of 1950, there was no sound too large for Kenton to recreate. Now, **Ken Dahleen and his Big Band Staff** tackle the scale and scope of “the Stan Kenton sound” in an evening of unforgettable music. There’s always artistry in the rhythm of Ken Dahleen and the Big Band Staff, and when paired with the music of Stan Kenton, the results will be big, big, BIG!

This concert is made possible by a generous gift from Jay Bartush.

Steinway Society’s 11th Annual Festival Winners’ Concert
Wednesday, May 20, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
The Steinway Society of Riverside County presents the winners of the 11th Annual Festival Competition in concert. Winners range from 7 to 17 years of age.

The Steinway Society of Riverside County and Coachella Valley was founded in 2002 to promote excellence in piano performance, bring music into schools and encourage music education at all levels, provide financial awards through competitions, and provide music lessons for deserving children.

This is a Gold Card Event

Presented by the Rancho Mirage Public Library Foundation
The Desert Winds Freedom Band
Saturday, May 30, 4 – 5 p.m.
The Desert Winds Freedom Band is thrilled to return to the Library for their annual “Pops Concert.” This year’s concert, “An American Portrait,” features a diverse selection of musical Americana. From Broadway with “West Side Story” to the central prairies with “Buffalo Dances,” and from the South with John Philip Sousa’s “Marching through Georgia” to the West with Steven Reineke’s musical portrait of “Sedona,” there’s something for everyone.

One of the featured numbers for this concert is a “Tennessee Salute.” From folk songs to country romance, this arrangement resonates across many generations and walks of life. Titles include “Your Cheatin’ Heart,” “Wabash Cannonball,” “Chattanooga Choo Choo,” “Tennessee Waltz,” and “Rocky Top.” The Desert Winds Concert is always a standing room only performance, so be sure to arrive early to get a seat!

Palm Springs Opera Guild
Presents Shakespeare and Opera: An Evening of Live Operatic Entertainment
Wednesday, June 3, 7 – 8:45 p.m.
The Palm Springs Opera Guild is back to present a much-anticipated lecture about this vast and exciting subject. Over the centuries, the plays of William Shakespeare have fed the imagination of many opera composers and have inspired many diverse styles of music.

The lecture (produced by Michael Cressey and presented by Bruce Johansen, Executive Board Members of the Guild) first gives an insightful overview of the numerous operas written on the major plays of the Bard of Avon. In a second part, PSOG presents various interpretations in the operatic literature of the greatest love story ever told: Romeo and Juliet. As always, the presentation is enlivened through the use of multimedia and illustrated by numerous musical excerpts interpreted live by PSOG’s Vocal Competition finalists.
An exhibit of photographs, representing the early images of Rancho Mirage residents, places, and institutions is on display in the Annenberg Reading Room. These photos are a treasure trove for anyone interested in viewing the growth of the City over the decades and the local dignitaries who made the City what it is today. Many residents may be surprised to know that Lucille Ball was the first Honorary Mayor of Rancho Mirage.

This exhibit is on display April through June.
Tiny Tot Tales
Meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Lively songs, fingerplays, action rhymes, flannel board stories, and books, followed by a coloring activity, delight the little ones ages one to three. Younger siblings are welcome. The 25-minute storytime begins promptly at 10 a.m. Since space is limited to the first 25 people, we suggest families arrive early.

Preschool Stories and Me – for children ages three to five
Meets every Thursday at 10 a.m.
Engaging stories, songs, and active rhymes captivate the imagination of children ages three to five. Coloring sheets and simple crafts round out the themed storytime experience. The 30-minute storytime begins promptly at 10 a.m. Since space is limited to the first 25 people, we suggest that families arrive early.

Each storytime session is held in the Storytime Room.

Special Family Storytime
Thursday, June 25, 10 a.m.
Loving All Animals will bring several spectacular birds that will delight us all with their rhythmic melodies. You will even get a chance to hold a bird for a photo opportunity. Everyone is welcome.
**APRIL**

**Family Night: Makerspace Marshmallow Structures**
Wednesday, April 1, 5:30 – 7 p.m.
Build with marshmallows, pretzel sticks, and spaghetti (uncooked 😊) –towers, bridges, free-form structures. Go wherever your imagination takes you! We'll photograph your creation and then you may eat it, if you want to! If you missed March Madness Maker Space, don’t miss this one.

*This program is in the Children’s Room.*

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**Family Night: Read to the Rhythm Summer Reading Club**
Monday, June 22 - Friday, August 14

This year our program will be significantly different from past years. We’ll have four groups. Each participant will be eligible to win prizes for reaching weekly reading goals. In addition, as your log is checked off each week, you’ll receive a ticket for a weekly raffle with five winners per group. Have fun and Read to the Rhythm!

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**MAY**

**Family Night: Jungle Rhythm Drum Circle with CHAZZ**
Wednesday, May 6, 6 – 7 p.m.
We’re getting ready for our Summer Reading Club theme, “Read to the Rhythm,” with amazing drummer Chazz Ross. He’ll bring lots of djembe drums and fascinate you by immediately creating jungle sounds, playing simple rhythms, and singing silly songs together. Learn more about drum history and culture.

*This program is in the Community Room.*

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**JUNE**

**Family Night: Read to the Rhythm Preview**
Wednesday, June 3, 5:30 – 7 p.m.
This is your chance to register early for our Summer Reading Club. We'll have a sneak preview of what we'll be doing all summer. Don’t miss your chance to get a head start on the reading program, which starts on June 22!

*This program is in the Children’s Room.*

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**Our weekday activities will be similar to previous years:**

- **Mondays 4–5 p.m.** Kids’ Book Discussion Group (9 to 12 year olds)
- **Tuesdays 2 – 4 p.m.** Game day including iPads, board games, card games and more.
- **Wednesdays 2 – 3 p.m.** “Big Show” with animals, magicians, music, dance, and more.
- **Thursdays 2 – 4 p.m.** Musical Menagerie experience many different types of rhythm expressed through dance, instruments, poetry, and more.
- **Fridays 2 – 4 p.m.** Movie Day our lineup includes My Fair Lady, High School Musical 2, The Emperor’s New Groove, Frozen, Charlotte’s Web, The Music Man, Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, and The Princess and the Frog – all served up with free popcorn!
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