

Programs & Exhibits

**September through
November 2023**



RANCHO MIRAGE
LIBRARY & OBSERVATORY

Library Hours

Monday to Saturday

9 am to 6 pm

Closed Sundays

Library Closures

Labor Day

Monday, September 4

Veterans Day

Friday, November 10 and

Saturday, November 11

Early Closures

Library closes at 5 pm

Wednesday, November 22

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 23

Friday, November 24



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ranchomiragellibrary.org

Cover Image: Exciting additions
are coming soon!

Nearly All of Our
Programs Are

FREE

File that under **fact**,
not **fiction**!

Thanks to the support of
our generous donors.

Unless otherwise noted, programs
are presented by the
**Rancho Mirage Library
and Observatory Foundation.**



**Keep up to date on everything happening at the
Library and Observatory by signing up for our email
newsletters!** In addition to a monthly preview email,
each Sunday morning you'll receive an email with a
detailed look at the week ahead. We'll even send you
“day-of” reminder emails for our major programs.

Sign up today at ranchomiragellibrary.org or by
scanning the QR code below.



Welcome to Your Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory

One of our goals in providing the best possible programming is to bring back community favorites while also working to provide exciting and innovative new opportunities. We are working to meet that goal by introducing several new programs this fall. **STEAM Reads**, an innovative new program made possible by the Smaby Family Foundation, will highlight popular fiction titles to inspire young readers to learn more about science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math (learn more and get all the details on page 20). We are also looking forward to a unique new program that merges education and live music performance with our **Opera Discovery Concert Series** in early October. Check out the music section starting on page 10 to learn more about the series and see the other performances we have lined up. We hope you'll join us to take part in these new opportunities!

Additional Highlights

- The **Rancho Mirage Writers Festival Writers Series** sponsored by Jordan Schnitzer returns with another great season of writers appearing in the Community Room starting October 5 (page 24).
- Join us at Rancho Mirage Community Park on October 14 to safely witness nearly 3/4 of the Sun's disk being blocked by the Moon as we take in the **Great American Eclipse** (page 15)!
- Musician and historian **Joey Leone's** last visit to the Library garnered so much positive feedback we had to have him back! Join Leone for a musical journey down memory lane with "AM Radio Memories & One Hit Wonders" on November 1 (page 11).
- The breathtakingly beautiful paintings of Rancho Mirage resident **Elaine Mathews** will grace the Library's walls throughout the fall (page 23).

As noted above, our mission to provide access to lifelong learning opportunities for all is only possible due to the generous financial support of the community. Individual donations are an important part of that funding, so if you enjoy our programs and exhibits, please consider making a donation to the Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory Foundation.

Your partners in lifelong learning,
The Staff of Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory

People of all abilities 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.

September through November 2023 1

A Summer of Su



Master Rusty's Rock and Roll Circus



Egg Drop



Reading Logs

Youth Theatre Production: *Charlotte's Web Jr.*

- 23 participants, ages 7–17
- 54 hours of auditions, rehearsals, technical reviews, costume-fittings, and make-up application
- 2 sold-out performances
- New skills, experiences, and memories that will last a lifetime



Rancho Mirage youth theatre programs are facilitated by Desert Theatricals and made possible by the Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory Foundation and a generous gift from the Richard Brooke Foundation.

Access *at the Library and Observatory*



Reading for the Stars Summer Reading Club

- 1,395,105 minutes read (that's almost 1,000 days of total reading time!)
- 862 registered readers submitted a total of 3,428 reading logs
- 8 weeks of free activities and Big Show performances with 5,200 program attendees
- 17 teen volunteers completed 1,038 hours of service




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 Look for the ram's head icon that marks our Premier programs!

All residents of Rancho Mirage and donors who contribute \$100 or more annually to the Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory Foundation can take advantage of priority seating for Premier programs by arriving early.

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Rancho Mirage Writers Festival Writers Series

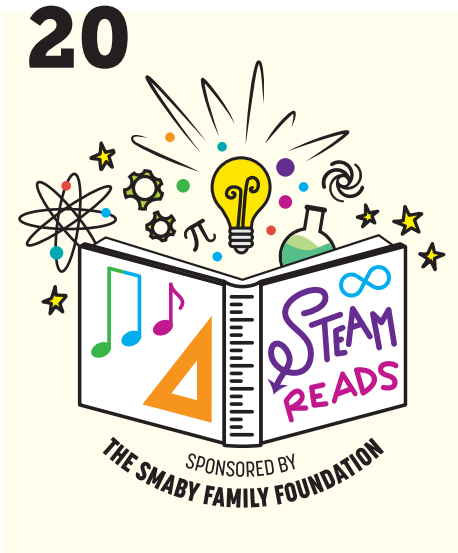
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STEAM Reads



Seth Rudetsky, author of *Musical Theatre for Dummies*

Community Showcase

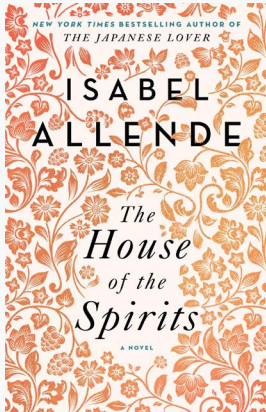
Book Discussion Group

The Library's Book Discussion Group meets on the second Friday of each month. No advance sign-up is necessary! If you have any questions and for more information, please contact Reference Librarian Jeffery Durham at (760) 341-7323 ext. 681 or email JefferyD@ranchomiragelibrary.org.

Friday, September 8

10–11 am

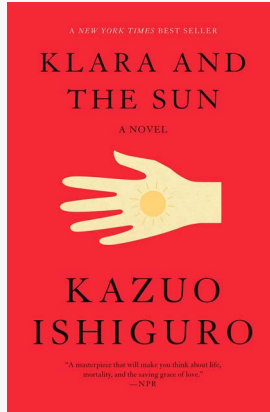
The House of the Spirits
by Isabel Allende



Friday, October 13

10–11 am

Klara and the Sun
by Kazuo Ishiguro



Thursday, November 9

10–11 am

The Guncle
by Steven Rowley





LifeStream Blood Drive

Friday, October 20

9 am–2 pm

Support your community and join us for a blood drive! Throughout the year the Library and Observatory partners with LifeStream to host these important events. Please be sure to drink plenty of fluids and bring photo ID with proof of age. Donors under the age of 17 must bring a signed LifeStream parental consent form. To learn more and sign-up in advance, visit lstream.org/rmpl or call 1-800-979-4484.



Shredding and E-Waste Collection

Saturday, October 7, 8 am–12 pm

The document shredding and e-waste collection events are free and open to Rancho Mirage residents only with proof of residency (photo I.D., driver's license, or utility bill showing Rancho Mirage address). Residents with a local country club access sticker on their vehicle will be permitted to enter without showing proof of residency.

Lectures

Shannon Bush Culinary Journey Series

Join us in October, November, and December as we travel the world with Chef Shannon to explore delicious, plant-based foods inspired by the cuisine of various regions.

Chef Shannon Bush has been a plant-based chef for over 30 years. She has worked as an executive chef, head baker, caterer, and culinary instructor. She loves to demonstrate the many benefits of plant-based eating and to prove that healthy food can be delicious!



Tuesday, October 10, 2–3 pm: Mediterranean Journey

Explore plant-based favorites from this “Blue Zone” area (one of five regions in the world where people are the healthiest) and learn how to make the food that helps these people routinely live to be centenarians.



Tuesday, November 14, 2–3 pm: Asian Journey

Learn to make meals inspired by China, South Korea, Japan, and Thailand.



Tuesday, December 19, 2–3 pm: Italian Journey

Explore different ways to turn classic Italian ingredients into delicious plant-based meals.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Lecture Series

Artificial Intelligence and Chat GPT

Tuesday, October 17, 2–3 pm

Do you know what ChatGPT is? It is a cutting-edge AI language model that can help you with a wide range of tasks, from writing emails and reports to answering questions and providing reminders. Our technology workshop will include a brief discussion where we'll explore what ChatGPT is and how it works. So come join us and discover the potential of this amazing technology! *(This promo was written by ChatGPT!)*

Presenter **Michael Casadonte** is the Director of Digital Transformation at California State University San Bernardino. Digital transformation is the process by which available data resources are efficiently utilized to bring convenience and ease of use to those who need it most, when and where they need it. When digital transformation has occurred, people are interacting with the information they need, presented the way they need it at the moment they need it.



Enchanted Valley: Exploring our Valley's Treasures

Tuesday, October 24, 2–3 pm

Kerry Berman is considered one of the most knowledgeable certified interpretive guides in the desert. He teaches geology for the Living Desert University, is a hike leader for Friends of the Desert Mountains, and takes seniors and students on tours throughout the Coachella Valley, in addition to giving private tours. Uncover hidden gems of the Coachella Valley and its surrounding area during this afternoon at the Rancho Mirage Library. What untold treasures will you discover?

This series is presented in partnership with Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at California State University San Bernardino's Palm Desert Campus.



Music

September through November music programming is made possible by a generous gift from the Bartush Performing Arts Fund.

Opera Discovery Concert Series

Join us for this two-day series presented by award-winning opera professional and educator **Natalie Mann**, who holds a Doctor of Music from Indiana University.

Why Does the Soprano Have to Die?

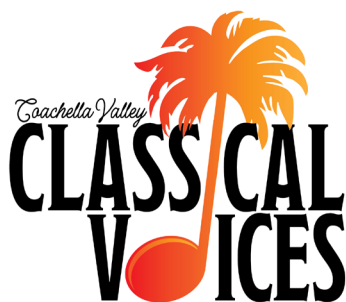
Monday, October 2, 2–3:30 pm

Opera has many traditions—and one of the most famous is how the female heroine meets a tragic fate. The stereotype is so commonplace that it became a sports analogy when sportswriter Dan Cook penned in 1976, “the opera ain’t over until the fat lady sings.” In this lecture, we will observe how composers use soprano voices as tragic heroines, looking at the compositional and storytelling aspects of the operas. **Natalie Mann** will present a fresh perspective on how listeners can evaluate operas. In addition to the lecture, she will also be performing selected arias live with pianist **Bruce Mangum**.



Are Baritones Always the Bad Guys? **Tuesday, October 3, 2–3:30 pm**

Poor baritones... an often under-appreciated voice type who are found in almost every opera. But their characters are crucial and often essential drivers to many operatic plots. We will delve into how composers use the baritone and bass/baritone voices as the antagonists to propel the story forward. **Natalie Mann** will discuss how listeners can go beyond the music and libretto to uncover deeper meaning in operas. In addition to the lecture, **Patrick Blackwell**, a baritone from the LA Opera, will also be performing selected arias live with pianist **Bruce Mangum**.



Coachella Valley Classical Voices

Wednesday, October 18, 7–8 pm

Now starting its second season, Coachella Valley Classical Voices (formerly Met to Broadway) entertains you with local, professionally trained singers presenting a program of your favorite opera and Broadway selections. Back by popular demand for its second performance at the Library, the troupe of local singers now features over 15 artists with selections in different languages and varied styles.

Joey Leone • AM Radio Memories & One Hit Wonders

Wednesday, November 1, 7–8 pm

Before cell phones, Spotify, iPods, CDs, and computers, there was the transistor radio—from the family car stereo and large tabletop version to the portable battery powered radio you could hold in your hand. **Joey Leone** takes an in-depth yet lighthearted look at the songs that came out of our AM radios during the 60s, 70s, and 80s. These include unforgettable songs recorded by prolific hit makers, including several “one hit wonders” by obscure artists who would never be heard from again! Leone adds fun facts, musical insights, and personal stories about the music that gave us so many “AM Radio Memories.”



Leone's passion for rock & roll, blues, and jazz started when he was a young man growing up in the multi-cultural neighborhood of Bushwick Brooklyn in New York City, and his primary access to music was the New York City Public Library system. He has been playing music for over forty years, and has performed, toured, and recorded with artists as diverse as Albert Collins, Etta James, Vic Damone, Chaka Khan, Sam & Dave, Joe Perry (Aerosmith), Wilson Pickett, and Chubby Checker.

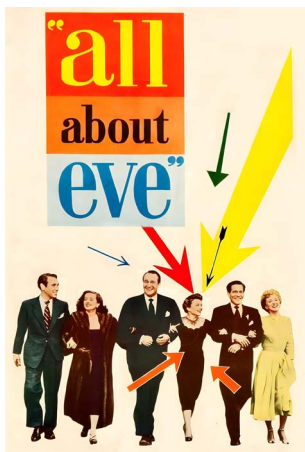
Quarteto Nuevo

Wednesday, November 15, 7–8 pm

Quarteto Nuevo merges western classical, Eastern European folk, Latin, and jazz with an organic feel that packs a wallop! The ensemble composes new movements for its *Jazz Road Suite* celebrating each state they visit. Quarteto's master musicians create emotionally charged soundscapes with sensibilities that represent very different world cultures. Their unique instrumentation—soprano sax (**Damon Zick**), cello (**Jacob Szekely**), guitar (**Kenton Youngstrom**), and percussion (**Felipe Fraga**)—richly colors their wide-ranging repertoire.



Film



Bette Davis: Larger Than Life

Award-winning educator **James Griswold** returns to present another series of classic films. Academy Award-winning actress Bette Davis is remembered as one of Hollywood's legendary leading ladies, famous for her larger-than-life persona both on and off the silver screen. Griswold will introduce three classic films starring Davis and provide some questions to consider as you watch, then follow up each screening with an informal “talk-back” session for those interested.

***The Letter* (1940)**

Monday, October 9, 2–4 pm

The wife of a rubber plantation administrator shoots a man to death and claims it was self-defense, but a letter in her own hand may prove her undoing.

***All About Eve* (1950)**

Monday, October 16, 2–4 pm

A seemingly timid but secretly ruthless ingénue insinuates herself into the lives of an aging Broadway star and her circle of theater friends.

***What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* (1962)**

Monday, October 23, 2–4 pm

A former child star torments her paraplegic sister in their decaying Hollywood mansion.



Bette Davis and Gary Merrill in *All About Eve*

Behind the Scenes with James B. Harris

Veteran Hollywood industry figure and Rancho Mirage resident **James B. Harris** has had an indelible impact on American cinema, serving triple duty as a producer, director, and screenwriter. He partnered with legendary director Stanley Kubrick to produce several provocative classics including *The Killing*, *Paths of Glory*, and *Lolita* before moving on to produce and direct *The Bedford Incident*, along with a number of other feature films, working with the likes of Sidney Poitier, Richard Pryor, James Woods, Wesley Snipes, and Dennis Hopper. Harris will join us in the Community Room to screen some of his most well-known films with introductions from award-winning producer **Steven C. Smith**, followed by a moderated discussion and Q&A session.

***The Killing* (1956)**

Monday, October 30, 2–4 pm

Crook Johnny Clay assembles a five-man team to plan and execute a daring racetrack robbery.

***Paths of Glory* (1957)**

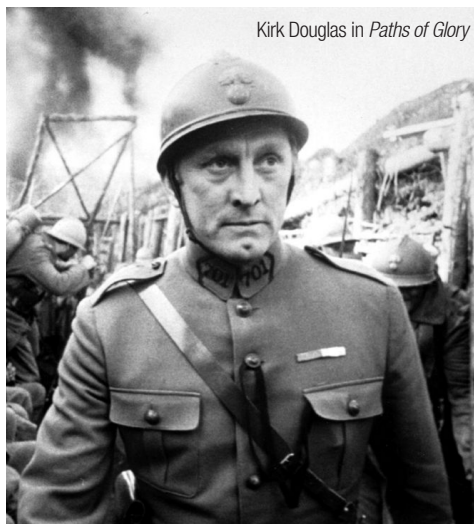
Wednesday, November 8, 2–4 pm

After refusing to attack an enemy position, a general accuses the soldiers of cowardice and their commanding officer must defend them.

***The Bedford Incident* (1965)**

Monday, November 13, 2–4 pm

An American destroyer captain is determined to confront a Soviet submarine caught violating territorial waters. Perhaps too determined.



This program is made possible by a generous gift from Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory Foundation Board Member Christine Hughes and Abe Ostrovsky.



Docu-Fridays

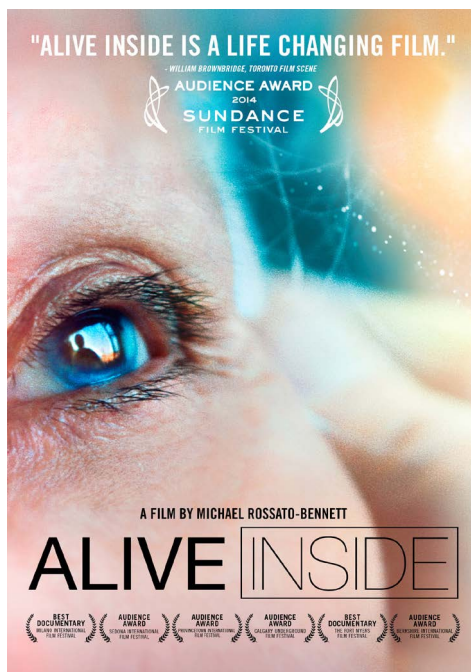
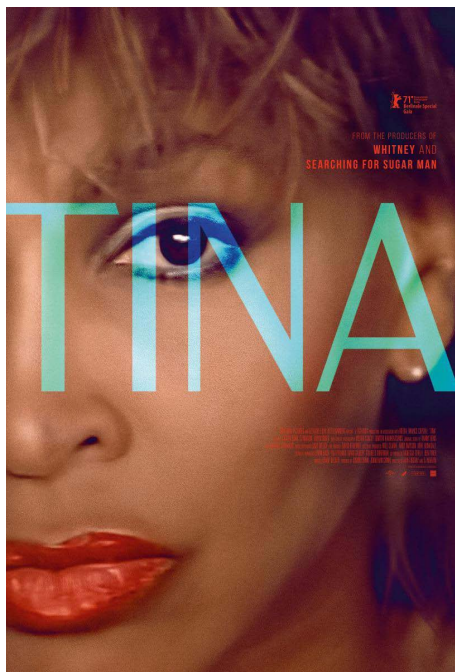
Join us for this series featuring unique documentaries selected and introduced by film historian **Jason Bruecks**.

***Tina* (2021) • Friday, October 27, 2–5 pm**

A revealing and intimate look at the life and career of musical icon Tina Turner, charting her improbable rise to early fame, her personal and professional struggles throughout her life, and her resurgence as a global phenomenon in the 1980s.

***Alive Inside* (2014) • Friday, November 17, 2–5 pm**

Dan Cohen, founder of the nonprofit organization Music and Memory, fights against a broken healthcare system to demonstrate music's ability to combat memory loss and restore a deep sense of self to those suffering from it.



Docu-Fridays Continues in December and January

***The Conductor* (2022) • Friday, December 15, 2–5 pm**

***The Biggest Little Farm* (2019) • Friday, January 5, 2–5 pm**

***The Trials of Muhammad Ali* (2014) • Friday, January 12, 2–5 pm**

***Meeting Gorbachev* (2018) • Friday, January 19, 2–5 pm**

Docu-Fridays are made possible in part by a generous gift from Barbara Rubin, Marla Rubin, and David Shapendonk.

Observatory

Great American Eclipse!

Saturday, October 14, 8–11 am

We are taking a journey down the road to gather at the **Rancho Mirage Community Park** to view a partial solar eclipse as the Moon passes between Earth and the Sun. Join us at the park to safely view this wonderful event through our telescopes equipped with special solar filters, learn more about eclipses, and create your own pinhole projection viewer!

8:08 am—partial eclipse begins

9:26 am—maximum eclipse: 73% of the Sun's disk will be blocked by the Moon!

10:53 am—partial eclipse ends

It is important to ***always*** use the proper eye protection when viewing the Sun. This requires special-purpose eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewers that meet the ISO 12312-2 international standard for such products. Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed Sun. The Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory will have certified eclipse glasses on hand the day of the program and available for giveaway at Observatory programs leading up to the event.



Photo: Jay M. Pasachoff

OPENights

Observatory Public Exploration Nights are your portal to the Universe! Join us at the Rancho Mirage Observatory to glimpse beyond our world through our PlaneWave Instruments CDK 700 telescope. Ask questions and learn fun facts from astronomers and volunteer docents as you take in 100–350x magnified views of planets, nebulae, star clusters, and more (weather permitting). No registration is necessary for this drop-in, open-house-style event. Due to the capacity limits of the Observatory, you may experience a short wait, but everyone will have a chance to get in. For dates and times, visit ranchomiragelibrary.org/observatory/stargazing.

Observatory Tours

Take a daytime tour of the Observatory to learn more about the facility and its history, see a live view of the sun through our solar telescope (when available), check out the Cosmic Office, and enjoy a presentation via our Integrated Space Theater inside the dome. No registration necessary. For dates and times visit ranchomiragelibrary.org/observatory.

Library Telescope Program

Thanks to a generous grant from the Smaby Family Foundation, we are lending portable, user-friendly telescopes to patrons! Look up the Orion StarBlast in our catalog, or ask a clerk at the Checkout Desk!

Kids, Teens, *and* Families

Storytimes

Tiny Tots

Ages 3 and under • Tuesdays at 10 am, Wednesdays at 10 and 11 am

25 minutes of lively songs, fingerplays, action rhymes, flannel board stories, and books, followed by a coloring activity, will delight the young ones.

Preschool

Ages 4 and up • Thursdays at 10 am

30 minutes of engaging stories, songs, and active rhymes captivate the imagination of children. Coloring sheets and simple crafts round out the themed storytime experience.

We suggest that participants arrive early so that all can benefit from the total experience and minimize disruptions. Space is limited. First come, first serve.

Read to Dogs! • Animal Samaritans Reading Program

Wednesday, September 6, 3–4 pm • Wednesday, September 20, 3–4 pm

Wednesday, October 4, 3–4 pm • Wednesday, October 18, 3–4 pm

Wednesday, November 1, 3–4 pm • Wednesday, November 15, 3–4 pm

Wednesday, November 29, 3–4 pm

Join us on these dates for an afternoon of fun as Animal Samaritans bring their Animal Companion Therapy Dogs to the Children's Room for you to practice your reading skills by reading to them.

Family Night

Pirate Night • Wednesday, September 6, 4:30–5:30 pm

Ahhhrrgh! Aye Matey! Come celebrate **Talk Like a Pirate Day** with an afternoon of crafts and stories about pirates. Costumes are optional but feel free to dress up like a pirate if you would like.

Truck Petting Zoo • Wednesday, October 4, 4:30–5:30 pm

Join the Rancho Mirage Fire Station, Police Department, and the City's Public Works department as we bring out trucks, cars, and construction vehicles for us to explore in a real life truck petting zoo.

Family Nights are sponsored by the Grace Helen Spearman Charitable Foundation.



Design It • Make It

A monthly program that sparks creativity and imagination with STEAM/STEM projects (recommended for ages 5+).

Planter • Friday, September 15, 4–5 pm

Using recycled materials, come make a planter friend.

Bird Feeder • Friday, November 17, 4–5 pm

Join us to make your very own bird feeder.

LEGO Night

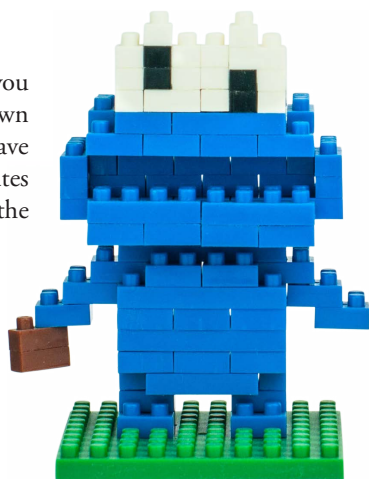
Build with us! Each month has a theme. It's up to you whether your creation reflects that theme or your own individual expression. Work alone or in a group. You'll have 45 minutes to build, 5 minutes to clean up, and 10 minutes to show off your work. Creations will be displayed until the following month. For kids ages five and up.

Pirates • Wednesday, September 27, 4:30–5:30 pm

Monsters • Wednesday, October 25, 4:30–5:30 pm

Build Something with 7 Blue, 7 Red, and 7 Yellow Bricks

Wednesday, November 29, 4:30–5:30 pm



Halloween Spooktacular Saturday, October 28, 1–3 pm

Join us for trick or treating and a costume parade throughout the Library. Afterwards, at 2 pm stay for and enjoy a silly and wacky magic show by **Zany Zoe!**

Younger Kids Book Discussion (Ages 7–9)

For the first half hour, we will be discussing the books. An activity will be planned for the second half of the hour, based on our reading material. Register online and pick up a copy of the book in the Children's Room.

Izzy's Tail of Trouble

Friday, September 22, 4–5 pm

By Caroline Adderson (A.R. level 3.6)

MonsterStreet: The Boy Who Cried Werewolf

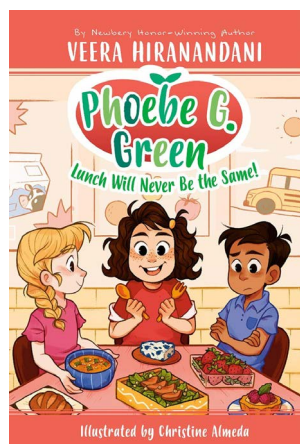
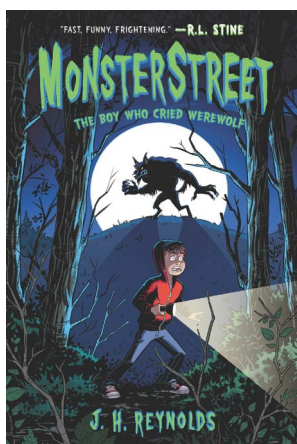
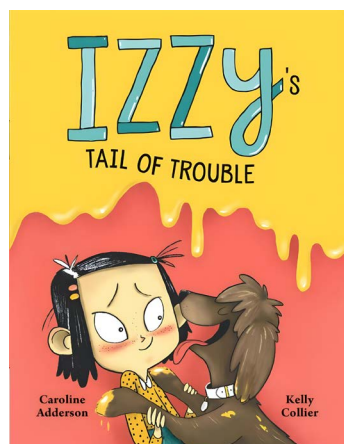
Friday, October 27, 4–5 pm

By J.H. Reynolds (A.R. level 4.8)

Phoebe G. Green: Lunch Will Never Be the Same!

Wednesday, November 22, 3–4 pm

By Veera Hiranandani (A.R. level 4.5)



Older Kids Book Discussion (Ages 10–12)

Every second Monday of the month. Register online and pick up a copy of the book in the Children's Room.

Stuntboy, in the Meantime

Monday, September 11, 4–5 pm

By Jason Reynolds (A.R. level 4.5)

The Silver Arrow

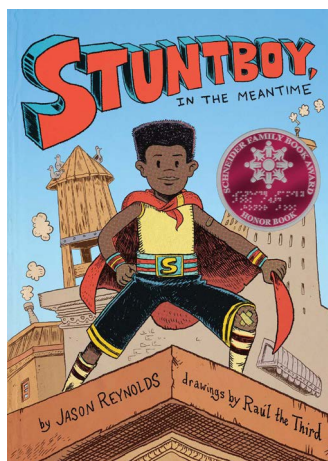
Monday, October 9, 4–5 pm

By Lev Grossman (A.R. level 4.9)

Wayward Creatures

Monday, November 13, 4–5 pm

By Dayna Lorentz (no A.R. level)



Teen Book Discussion (Grades 6–12)

The first 10 registrants will receive a free copy of the book. Registration is required.

***Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes* • Wednesday, September 6, 4:30–5:30 pm**

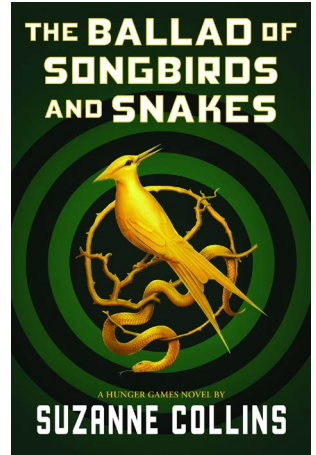
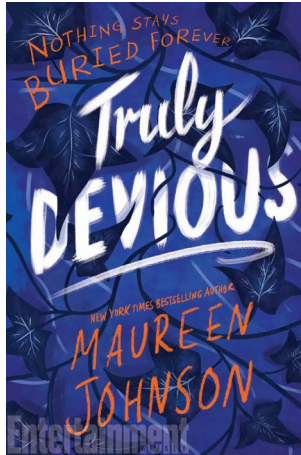
By Chris Crutcher.

***Truly Devious: A Mystery* • Wednesday, October 4, 4:30–5:30 pm**

By Maureen Johnson.

***The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* • Wednesday, November 1, 4:30–5:30 pm**

By Suzanne Collins.



The Scribblers

Finger Puppet Theatre

Ages 9–14 • Thursdays, September 7–November 9, 4–5 pm

In this ten-week session, writers will learn to write a one act play. Each session will include a snack, discussion, ice breaker, and a time to write and share. On the final session, students will perform their play with finger puppets. Guardians and families are encouraged to attend this small performance. **Please plan to attend all ten weeks and register at ranchomiragelibrary.org.**



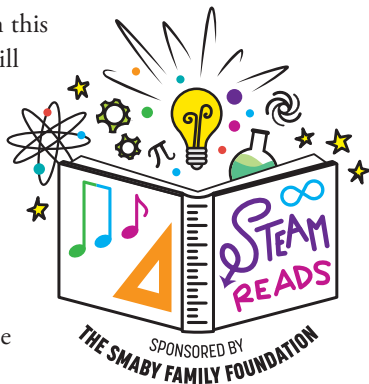
Teen Movie • *The Hunger Games*

Grades 6–12 • Monday, November 20, 2–4:30 pm

Join us in the Community Room. After her younger sister is chosen to take part, 16-year-old Katniss Everdeen volunteers to compete in her place in a cruel televised tournament in which 24 teenagers from a postapocalyptic society fight to the death for the entertainment of the masses in a competition known as the “Hunger Games.” Snacks will be provided.

STEAM Reads

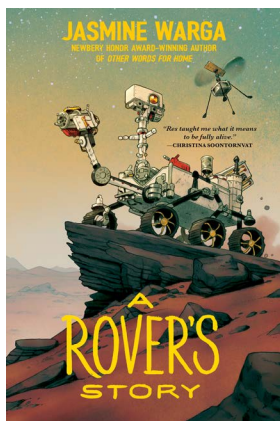
We're excited to be launching a new program for children this fall called **STEAM Reads!** This six-month long program will highlight popular fiction titles to inspire young readers to learn more about science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) concepts. Through author visits, book discussions, hands-on activities, and more, we hope to encourage children to grow more excited about STEAM subjects and careers. **Unless noted, registration for each session is required. Visit ranchomiragelibrary.org to register.** This ambitious program is made possible thanks to the Smaby Family Foundation.



Rover LEGO Build (Ages 5+)

Friday, October 20, 4–5 pm • No registration required.

Build with us! Participants will have 45 minutes to build their own rover or space themed creation. Afterwards, children will practice their public speaking skills by presenting their creation to the group. Creations will remain on display in the Children's Room until the next LEGO Night. Three LEGO City Lunar Roving Vehicle (60348) sets will be raffled away at the end of the program.



A Rover's Story Book Discussion (Grades 3–7)

Monday, October 23, 4–5 pm

The first 50 registrants will receive a free copy of the book. **Pick up your copy in the Children's Room starting in mid-September.** 3...2...1...BLAST OFF! Readers will meet to discuss *A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga. *The New York Times* calls this middle grade novel “a gripping read.” The novel follows the journey of a fictional Mars rover named Resilience. The group will be split into two at the beginning of the hour. One group will discuss the novel while the other will complete an activity based on the reading. After 30 minutes the groups will switch. Light refreshments will be served.

Telescope Tour (Ages 9–14)

Tuesday, November 7, 4–5 pm

Aspiring astronomers will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with our Observatory's three different telescopes. They will also learn how to use the Library's StarBlast 4.5" Reflector Telescopes that are available to check out to anyone who holds a Rancho Mirage Library card. Participants will create a telescope of their own out of a pool noodle to continue their space exploration from home.

Artist's depiction of Perseverance rover (image: NASA)



Personification Writing Workshop (Ages 9–14)

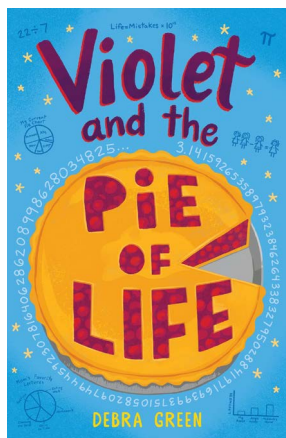
Thursday, November 16, 4–5 pm

Young writers will watch a short video of NASA's Perseverance rover's descent and touchdown on Mars. Wahoo! They will learn the definition of personification and brainstorm some examples. Writers will then be asked to draft a short story from a rover's point of view much like *Resilience from A Rover's Story*. Each writer will have an opportunity to read their work aloud to the group and receive feedback.

Food Science Experiment— Apple Oxidation and Soil-Free Planter (Ages 7+)

Tuesday, November 21, 4–5 pm

Students will learn what keeps apples from turning brown in an oxidation experiment using the scientific method to explore how apple slices react when coated with different liquids. Is it possible to grow plants without soil? Yes, it is! Plants only need water, air, and light to grow. Students will be introduced to hydroponics and will create a soil-free planter that they will be able to take home to continue their scientific studies by sprouting beans.



COMING SOON...

Debra L. Green Author Visit (Grades 3–7)

Saturday, December 9, 2–3 pm

The first 50 registrants will receive a free copy of the book. Pick up your copy in the Children's Room starting in November. Green will be discussing her novel *Violet and the Pie of Life*. Violet is twelve years old and has two great loves: math and pie. If only she could apply math to solve her parents' problems. Filled with warmth, humor, heart, and don't forget the pie! Includes charts, graphs, and diagrams throughout. Green includes lots of humor while teaching readers about writing. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A and signing.

Theatre



Elf The Musical JR.

Based on the beloved holiday film, this hilarious fish-out-of-water comedy follows Buddy the Elf in his quest to find his true identity. Can Buddy win over his new family and help the people of New York remember the true meaning of Christmas?

Auditions

Tuesday, September 5 to Thursday, September 7

Local youth ages 7–17 can audition to join our production of *Elf The Musical JR.* Auditions will be at the Rancho Mirage Community Amphitheater. **To learn more and register, visit deserttheatricals.com/junior-theatre.** There is no cost to audition or take part in our youth theatre program. Embrace your “inner elf” to have fun, make friends, and learn new skills. The experience includes fully orchestrated show music, amazing costumes, professional scenery and props, performances at Rancho Mirage Amphitheater, and instruction from award-winning theatre professionals!

Performances

Saturday, November 18, 7–8 pm • Sunday, November 19, 7–8 pm

Performances will take place at the Rancho Mirage Community Amphitheater, located in Rancho Mirage Community Park at 71560 San Jacinto Drive. Admission to the performance is free, however tickets are required. Visit www.desert-theatricals.com to reserve your tickets.

Coming in 2024: Disney's Moana JR. and Stuart Little!

Rancho Mirage Library youth theatre programs are facilitated by Desert Theatricals and made possible by generous gifts from the Richard Brooke Foundation and Anderson Children's Foundation.



**Irene W. & Guy L. Anderson
Children's Foundation**

The Artwork of Elaine Mathews

September through November

Elaine Mathews describes herself as a traditional artist influenced by California Impressionism. She lives in the Palm Springs area and paints both very large, semi-impressionistic landscapes and small plein air paintings, using a palette knife and brush.

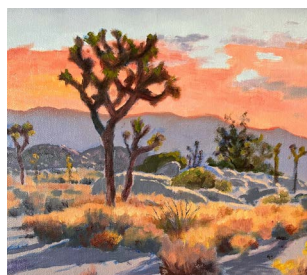
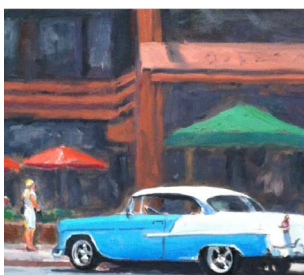
The year she was born, Mathews' family moved from Ohio to Compton, California, where her formative years were spent drawing and painting the changing light and shadows cast by the sun on the San Gabriel Mountains. Her love for nature is evident in all of her landscapes. She strives to capture the ageless beauty of our land and preserve it on canvas for future generations to enjoy. Her favorite landscapes include the desert and coast of Southern California, Big Sur, the rolling hills of Northern California, and the mountains and rivers of the neighboring states of Arizona, Utah, Oregon, and Washington state.



In describing her motivation, Mathews explains, “the beauty of California attracts people from around the globe. It is the primary inspiration for my work. I hope by viewing my paintings, people will be reminded of times spent experiencing the splendor and ruggedness of the California landscape. I consider myself a traditional artist influenced by the California impressionists, particularly William Wendt and Benjamin Brown.”

Mathews' holds a B.A. in studio art from California State University, Long Beach, and an M.A. from Azuza Pacific University. She is co-chairperson of the California Art Club's desert chapter and was formerly the chairperson of the art department at Savanna High School in Anaheim.

To learn more about Elaine Mathews and her work visit elaineartist.com.



Rancho Mirage Writers Festival Writers Series

RM WRITERS SERIES
WF SPONSORED BY JORDAN SCHNITZER
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The Writers Series is sponsored by the Rancho Mirage Writers Festival Foundation and presents a series of talks by eminent authors throughout the year. These talks will also be

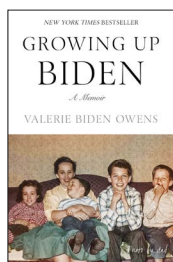
live streaming on our YouTube page youtube.com/ranchoiragelibraryobservatory and available to view at www.rmwritersfest.org/videos/writers-series.



Valerie Biden Owens in Conversation with Honorable Barbara Boxer • *Growing up Biden*

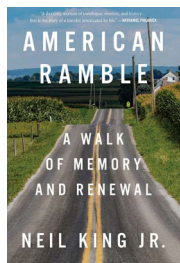
Thursday, October 5, 2–3 pm

Valerie Biden Owens is the first woman in U.S. history to have run a presidential campaign—that of her brother, Joseph R. Biden, Jr. She also led his seven straight U.S. Senate victories and has been his principal surrogate on the campaign trail. Hon. Barbara Boxer is a former U.S. Senator from California and the author of five books. **The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *Growing up Biden*.**



Neil King Jr. • *American Ramble: A Walk of Memory and Renewal*

Thursday, October 12, 2–3 pm

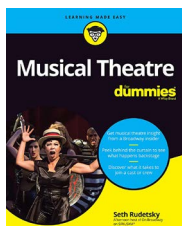


A fourth-generation Coloradan, **Neil King Jr.** is a longtime former Wall Street Journal editor and reporter who covered beats ranging from national politics, foreign policy, and terrorism. He spent much of his career abroad and was part of a team that won a Pulitzer Prize for its coverage of 9/11. He splits his time now between Washington, D.C. and New York City, the beginning and endpoints of the walk that later became *American Ramble*. **The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *American Ramble*.**



Seth Rudetsky • Musical Theatre for Dummies

Thursday, October 26, 2–3 pm



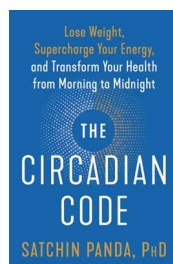
Seth Rudetsky spent many years on Broadway as a pianist and conductor as well as two years as a comedy writer on *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* (three Emmy nominations with his co-writers). He is now the afternoon deejay on the SiriusXM Broadway channel as well as the host of *Seth Speaks*. He's written the books *Seth's Broadway Diary, Volume 1* and *2* and has also authored two young adult novels: *My Awesome/Awful Popularity Plan* and *The Rise and Fall of a Theater Geek*. Rudetsky and his husband James Wesley host the livestream *Stars in the House* which raises money for The Entertainment Community Fund. **The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *Musical Theatre for Dummies*.**



Dr. Satchin Panda • The Circadian Code

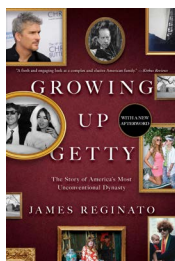
Thursday, November 2, 2–3 pm

Dr. Satchin Panda is a professor at The Salk Institute, California. His lab studies how circadian rhythm in metabolism is an integral part of metabolic health and longevity. In preclinical animal models, he discovered that consuming all calories within a consistent 8–12 hours or time-restricted feeding can sustain daily rhythms in anabolic and catabolic metabolism. Such temporal regulation of metabolism can prevent or reverse chronic diseases and increase lifespan. His lab has developed an app—myCircadianClock—being used to study the epidemiology of daily pattern of activity, sleep, and food intake and to run parallel interventional studies to test the impact of time-restricted feeding on various chronic diseases. **The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *The Circadian Code*.**



James Reginato • Growing Up Getty: The Story of America's Most Unconventional Dynasty

Thursday, November 16, 2–3 pm



Journalist and author **James Reginato** is a longtime writer-at-large at *Vanity Fair* and the author of *Great Houses*, *Modern Aristocrats* and, most recently, *Growing Up Getty*. While becoming the richest man in the world, Minnesota-born oil magnate J. Paul Getty (1892–1976) produced five sons with five wives. The descendants—19 grandchildren and (at last count) 45 great grandchildren—have grappled in astonishingly diverse ways with the fate of belonging to a modern dynasty. Through deep research as well as interviews with family members, Reginato pierced many of the myths that have surrounded this complex and elusive family. **The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *Growing Up Getty*.**

This series is made possible by a generous gift from Jordan Schnitzer, funded by the Harold & Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation.

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You may have seen Library and Observatory programs featured on Rancho Mirage Television (RMTV), but did you know that our YouTube channel has a library of over 200 videos that you can access online for free? Many of our upcoming programs will be live streamed, and you'll also find past lectures, author appearances, concerts, and more! To access our channel, simply visit our website and click on the link for RMTV, or visit **youtube.com/ranchomiragelibraryobservatory**. Once there, you can choose to subscribe and activate notifications so that you'll know the second we've posted a new video!

We Want to Hear from You!

Have a program idea or a connection to a person or organization we should feature?

Send us a message to tell us your ideas and let us know how we're doing!

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Calendar • September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>■ The Artwork of Elaine Matthews p. 23 September is Library Card Sign-up Month September is National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month</p> <p>Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month is September 15 to October 15 Constitution Day is September 17</p>						
3 Library Closed	4 Library Closed	5 ■ <i>Elf The Musical JR.</i> Auditions 4–6 pm p. 22	6 ■ Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 16 ■ <i>Elf The Musical JR.</i> Auditions 4–6 pm p. 22 ■ Teen Book Discussion: <i>Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes</i> 4:30–5:30 pm p. 19 ■ Family Night: Pirate Night 4:30–5:30 pm p. 16	7 ■ The Scribblers 4–5 pm p. 19 ■ <i>Elf The Musical JR.</i> Auditions 4–6 pm p. 22	8 ■ Book Discussion Group: <i>The House of the Spirits</i> 10–11 am p. 6	9
10 Library Closed	11 ■ Older Kids Book Discussion: <i>Stuntboy, in the Meantime</i> 4–5 pm p. 18	12	13	14 ■ The Scribblers 4–5 pm p. 19 ■ OPENNight 8:30–10 pm p. 15	15 ■ Design It • Make It: Planter 4–5 pm p. 17	16 ■ OPENNight 8:30–10 pm p. 15
17 Library Closed	18	19	20 ■ Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 16	21 ■ The Scribblers 4–5 pm p. 19 ■ OPENNight 8:30–10 pm p. 15	22 ■ Younger Kids Book Discussion: <i>Izzy's Tail of Trouble</i> 4–5 pm p. 18	23 ■ OPENNight 8:30–10 pm p. 15
24 Library Closed	25	26	27 ■ LEGO Night: Pirates 4:30–5:30 pm p. 17	28 ■ The Scribblers 4–5 pm p. 19 ■ OPENNight 8:30–10 pm p. 15	29	30 ■ OPENNight 8:30–10 pm p. 15

Calendar • October

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Library Closed	2 ■ Opera Discovery Concert Series 2-3:30 pm p. 10	3 ■ Opera Discovery Concert Series 2-3:30 pm p. 10	4 ■ Read to Dogs! 3-4 pm p. 16 ■ Family Night: Truck Petting Zoo 4:30-5:30 pm p. 16 ■ Teen Book Discussion: <i>Truly Devious: A Mystery</i> 4:30-5:30 pm p. 19	5 ■ Growing up Biden 2-3 pm p. 24 ■ The Scribblers 4-5 pm p. 19 ■ OPENight 8:30-10 pm p. 15	6	7 ■ Shredding and E-Waste Collection 8 am-12 pm p. 7 ■ OPENight 8:30-10 pm p. 15
8 Library Closed	9 ■ <i>The Letter</i> 2-4 pm p. 12 ■ Older Kids Book Discussion: <i>The Silver Arrow</i> 4-5 pm p. 18	10 ■ Culinary Journey Series: Mediterranean Journey 2-3 pm p. 8	11	12 ■ American Rambles 2-3 pm p. 24 ■ The Scribblers 4-5 pm p. 19 ■ OPENight 8:30-10 pm p. 15	13 ■ Book Discussion Group: <i>Alara and the Sun</i> 10-11 am p. 6	14 ■ Great American Eclipse! 8-11 am p. 15
15 Library Closed	16 ■ <i>All About Eve</i> 2-4 pm p. 12	17 ■ Artificial Intelligence and Chat GPT 2-3 pm p. 9	18 ■ Read to Dogs! 3-4 pm p. 16 ■ Coachella Valley Classical Voices 7-8 pm p. 10	19 ■ The Scribblers 4-5 pm p. 19 ■ OPENight 7:30-9 pm p. 15	20 ■ LifeStream Blood Drive 9 am-2 pm p. 7 ■ STEAM Reads: Rover LEGO Build 4-5 pm p. 20	21 ■ OPENight 7:30-9 pm p. 15
22 Library Closed	23 ■ <i>What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?</i> 2-4 pm p. 12 ■ STEAM Reads: <i>A Rover's Story</i> Book Discussion 4-5 pm p. 20	24 ■ Enchanted Valley: Exploring our Valley's Treasures 2-3 pm p. 9	25 ■ LEGO Night: Monsters 4:30-5:30 pm p. 17	26 ■ Musical Theatre for Dummies 2-3 pm p. 25 ■ The Scribblers 4-5 pm p. 19 ■ OPENight 7:30-9 pm p. 15	27 ■ Tina 2-5 pm p. 14 ■ Younger Kids Book Discussion: <i>MonsterStreet: The Boy Who Cried Werewolf</i> 4-5 pm p. 18	28 ■ Halloween Spooktacular 1-3 pm p. 17 ■ OPENight 7:30-9 pm p. 15
29 Library Closed	30 ■ <i>The Killing</i> 2-4 pm p. 13	31	<div> <div></div> <div>The Artwork of Elaine Matthews p. 23</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Banned Books Week is October 1 to 7</div> </div>			

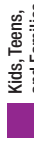


Calendar • November

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	<p> The Artwork of Elaine Matthews p. 23</p>		<p>1</p> <p> Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 16</p> <p> Teen Book Discussion: <i>The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes</i> 4:30–5:30 pm p. 19</p> <p> Joey Leone 7–8 pm p. 10</p>	<p>2</p> <p> The Circadian Code 2–3 pm p. 25</p> <p> The Scribblers 4–5 pm p. 19</p> <p> OPENight 7:30–9 pm p. 15</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p> OPENight 7:30–9 pm p. 15</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Library Closed</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p> STEAM Reads: Telescope Tour 4–5 pm p. 20</p>	<p>8</p> <p> <i>Paths of Glory</i> 2–4 pm p. 13</p>	<p>9</p> <p> Book Discussion Group: <i>The Guncle</i> 10–11 am p. 6</p> <p> The Scribblers 4–5 pm p. 19</p> <p> OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 15</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Library Closed</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Library Closed</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Library Closed</p>	<p>13</p> <p> <i>The Bedford Incident</i> 2–4 pm p. 13</p> <p> Older Kids Book Discussion: <i>Wayward Creatures</i> 4–5 pm p. 18</p>	<p>14</p> <p> Culinary Journey Series: Asian Journey 2–3 pm p. 8</p>	<p>15</p> <p> Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 16</p> <p> Quarteto Nuevo 7–8 pm p. 11</p>	<p>16</p> <p> Growing Up Getty 2–3 pm p. 25</p> <p> STEAM Reads: Personification Writing Workshop 4–5 pm p. 21</p> <p> OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 15</p>	<p>17</p> <p> <i>Alive Inside</i> 2–5 pm p. 14</p>	<p>18</p> <p> OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 15</p> <p> <i>Elf The Musical JR.</i> 7–8 pm p. 22</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Library Closed</p> <p> <i>Elf The Musical JR.</i> 7–8 pm p. 22</p>	<p>20</p> <p> Teen Movie: <i>The Hunger Games</i> 2–4:30 pm p. 19</p>	<p>21</p> <p> STEAM Reads: Food Science Experiment 4–5 pm p. 21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Library Closes at 5 pm</p> <p> Younger Kids Book Discussion: <i>Phoebe G. Green: Lunch Will Never Be the Same!</i> 3–4 pm p. 18</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Library Closed</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Library Closed</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Library Closed</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p> Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 16</p> <p> LEGO Night: Build Something with 7 Blue, 7 Red, and 7 Yellow Bricks 4:30–5:30 pm p. 17</p>	<p>30</p> <p> OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 15</p>		



Exhibit



Kids, Teens, and Families



Music



RMWF Writers Series



Observatory



Film



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Lectures



Theatre



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