

FRIENDS



OF LOS GATOS LIBRARY

Friends of
Los Gatos
Library

Off The Shelf

Fall
2023

Friends Funds at Work!

Every penny the Friends make goes to support the wonderful programming for all ages that our library offers. Many thanks to you who have made this programming possible by donating books to the Friends Bookstore, shopping in the bookstore and making cash donations. Here are the things you helped fund during the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Overview

- ~570 programs (in person, virtual, and hybrid)
- Mix of in-person, online and recorded events
- ~16,000 people attended programs (compared to 2,700 last year!)
- More than 10,000 teen visits
- New partnerships with local organizations

Percentage Spent on...

- 73% Performers/Instructors
- 11% Programs supplies
- 11% Book club kits/Storytime titles/Storywalk books
- 3% Giveaways
- 1% Other
- 1% Kits

Performers and Instructors

- Cultural programming: Spanish Music for Families, Chinese Calligraphy, ETH-NO-TEC Storytelling, Muwekma Ohlone Discover with NuMu, Village Rhythms with Onye Onyenmaechi, and more
- Programs offered both online and in person
- New partnerships with community organizations such as NUMU (New Museum Los Gatos)
- Opportunities to learn new skills: language classes, tarot, magic tricks and mindful movement
- Classes in art, science and nature

Book Clubs, Storytimes and Storywalks

- Three storytimes a week, welcoming 40 to 120 families at each
- New Storywalk Books monthly
- Six monthly book clubs, including two new ones: Cookbook Club and Informed Citizen's Book Club
- Online Author Talks featuring 36 well-known writers

Kits, Puzzles & Games

- Library of Things contains 484 items that circulated 4,351 times this year
- Currently have 180 jigsaw puzzles and 75 board games
- New kits: Civics Kit, Observing Pollinators, Gardening Kids, expanded Nature Journaling Kits, Night Sky Kits, Coastal Cleanup Kits
- Added kalimbas to the musical instruments collection

Program Supplies

- Supplies for Open Studio days in the Teen Room and Kids Room
- Kids take-home craft kits and in-person craft events
- Supplies for art classes
- Seeds for our Seed Library

Local History

- Supplies for organizing the collection, creating displays, and keeping archival materials protected
- Supplies for hands-on programming
- Subscriptions for researching patron questions and transcribing oral history interviews
- Shipping costs for digitizing over 50 years of funeral home records through the California Revealed grant
- Author talk by Richard Mohr in partnership with NUMU

Giveaways

- Give-away books to celebrate Banned Books Week
- Gift cards for prizes
- Candy and treats for Halloween Parade
- Pins, stickers, and other doodads



President's Letter

by Celia Bakke

Greetings. I'm honored to be serving as the president of the Friends for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. I joined the board in July 2016, serving as recording secretary until July 2023.

In the past year we have experienced several retirements of long-term board members who provided exceptional service and support to our organization: Marlene Rodman, bookstore manager, guided the operation of the store and the dedicated volunteers who work there.

Cheryl McKenzie, publicity chair, promoted the activities and accomplishments of the Friends to the community and transitioned our outreach to a digital format. At our annual May meeting, which is always open to the community, we hosted Alan Feinberg, developer of the mobile app "Discover LOST Gatos," who provided many interesting and entertaining stories of historical Los Gatos.

The Friends is a vital entity in providing funding for the Los Gatos Library, primarily in support of the hundreds of programs the library presents each year. The programs introduce all ages—babies and beyond—to reading, learning and the wonders of our world. Funds are generated through sales from the bookstore, including Amazon sales, and donations from patrons like you. At the August 1, 2023 Los Gatos Town Council meeting, the Friends presented the Los Gatos Library with a ceremonial check donation of \$87,300 for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Recently we established an exciting partnership with the National Charity League, a national philanthropic organization of mothers and daughters. This partnership is allowing us to expand the hours of the bookstore—the only bookstore in town—which benefits the library and the community.

I am extremely appreciative of the volunteers who *are* this organization and make it work and to all of you who participate by volunteering, donating books and/or contributing funds. And I also thank the Los Gatos Library staff who provide support to the Friends in this symbiotic relationship.

If you have questions or would like to be involved, contact me at celia.bakke@sjsu.edu. 🌿



At the August 1 meeting of the Los Gatos Town Council, members of the Friends board presented a ceremonial check for \$87,300, the amount donated to the library in the 2022-23 fiscal year. Shown (l. to r.) are Alicia Barela, Library Director Ryan Baker, Mary Martin, Celia Bakke, Louise Roon, Sue Tuttle, Alyce Parsons, and Mayor Maria Ristow.

Especially Generous Donors

The Friends are grateful to the following people who have donated \$500 or more since the publication of our last newsletter. Their names will be listed on the scrolling screen near the Children's Room.

- Virginia Carpio
- Renae De Santis
- Kathryn Edwards
- Carol & John Giannandrea
- Dennis McEvoy & Kim Worsencroft
- Edward & Phoebe Morimoto

New Bookstore Managers Add More Open Hours

Lisa Schirmer and Tricia Schaeffler have taken on one of the biggest jobs on the Friends Board of directors—managing the bookstore. This is a vital position because revenue from the store makes up the majority of the funds the Friends contribute to the library each year.

With new ideas and lots of enthusiasm, the duo recently announced additional hours of operation. The expanded schedule is possible because of a new partnership with the National Charity League, a philanthropic organization of mothers and daughters who are joining the robust team of bookstore volunteers.

Tricia and Lisa each have two children, now college-age, who grew up visiting Los Gatos Library, so volunteering for the Friends was a natural for them. Lisa says, “I love books, and I love to help the community and our library.”

Tricia adds that she enjoys working at “the only bookstore in town,” and is impressed by the generosity of the people who donate their gently used books and who patronize the store. *Tricia (l.) and Lisa (r.)*

And both Lisa and Tricia value the contribution the store makes to the well-being of our Earth. They say that the bookstore exemplifies the “3 Rs” to help the planet: “Reuse, Reduce and Recycle” and are proud to be part of that. 🌿



Tiny chairs for tiniest shoppers!



Find vintage & specialty books in the store and on our Amazon site.

Shopping Tips!

You still have time to get in on the \$10-a-Bag Sale which lasts until the end of November. Fill a grocery bag with up to 15 books for just \$10! (Excludes new \$5 books.)

While you're in the store, consider picking up some holiday gifts. We have a wide selection of like-new treasures, including beautiful coffee-table books. 🌿

Stay in Touch!

If you're reading a hard copy of this newsletter and would like to make sure you get the next issue, send us your email address: friendsoflglib@aol.com

Our email list is never used for anything other than infrequent messages from the Friends. 🌿

Friends of Los Gatos Library Bookstore

110 E. Main St., Los Gatos

All money made in the bookstore goes to support the library's programs for community members of all ages. (Read about them on the front page of this newsletter) The bookstore is located near the fountain on the plaza up the stairs to the right of the library.

Open NEW Days & Hours

Monday	CLOSED	Friday	1-5 p.m.
Tuesday	4-6 p.m.	Saturday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday	1-5 p.m.	Sunday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Thursday	1-5 p.m.		

Donations

Donate up to 100 lightly used books and DVDs at one time, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. Bring them to the side door at the left of the library (not to the bookstore), 100 Villa Avenue, Los Gatos.

Volunteers

The bookstore is an all-volunteer effort. If you are interested in sorting books, doing Amazon sales or staffing the store, please complete an application form which you can pick up in the bookstore.

FRIENDS



OF LOS GATOS LIBRARY

100 Villa Ave.
Los Gatos, CA 95030

SAVE THE DATE!
\$10-A-BAG SALE
RUNS THROUGH NOVEMBER!
DETAILS INSIDE



This summer, Friends volunteers staffed a weekly table at the Jazz on the Plazz concert series. Visitors to the table could spin a wheel to win prizes, including raffle tickets and books from our Little Free Library. Each night, one lucky raffle-prize winner received a bag to fill with books on a visit to the Friends Bookstore.

The popular garden next to the Children's Room was renovated and given a whole new look this year. This re-landscaping was funded, in part, by a bequest from the estate of Dale Hill, a founding member and longtime board member of the Friends.



Donate to Friends of Los Gatos Library

Off the Shelf is published by Friends of Los Gatos Library, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established to encourage use of the library for the pursuit of knowledge, information and pleasure; to increase public awareness of library resources; and to raise funds for library enhancements.

To make a tax-deductible gift and become a Friend of Los Gatos Library, please complete the form below and mail to: Friends of Los Gatos Library, 100 Villa Ave., Los Gatos, CA 95030. You can also donate on the Friends website: <https://friendsoflibrary.org> (Scroll all the way to the bottom of the page for donation link.)

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Amount enclosed:

\$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____