SCIENCE NIGHT
Our 10th after-hours STEAM celebration features hands-on learning and fun

SEED LIBRARY
We introduce Seed Libraries at both of our locations, plus a special exhibition and events to get you growing

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ
The lauded author visits Menlo Park to talk about living and writing a migrant’s life
“If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.”

—Cicero
YOU CAN COUNT ON US.
CAN WE COUNT (ON) YOU?

Come visit Menlo Park Library for more information on the US Census 2020.
SPOTLIGHT ON:
COMICS ART FEST

During the month of March, the Menlo Park Library is teaming up with other libraries throughout San Mateo County to celebrate the importance of comics, both as an art form and as valid literature!

Check out the events right here in Menlo Park, and see the full March slate at www.comicartsfest.com

Staff Picks–Comic Arts

Delicious in Dungeon by Ryoko Kui
“Dungeons & Dragons meets Bon Appetit. Read this if your dungeon crawl isn’t complete until you’ve vanquished and eaten your enemies.”
—Sarah, Library Assistant

They Called Us Enemy by George Takei
“This novel set in WWII is told by George Takei as a child in the Japanese Internment camps. It is both heartbreaking and powerful. I liked this book so much, I added it to the Teen Zone & booklist.”
—Gina, Librarian

Nimona by Noelle Stevenson
“The story has a lot of hidden depth and touches on some serious topics without ever really losing its lighthearted tone.”
—Nora, Librarian

PLCAF SMALL PRESS
COMICS EXPO
Saturday, March 7
10:00 am–4:00 pm
Redwood City Downtown Library,
1044 Middlefield Road
Meet dozens of comics creators, and take advantage of illustration workshops, author talks, and book signings! View the list of artists at www.comicartsfest.com.

COMIC ARTIST PANEL:
THE ROAD TO PUBLICATION
Monday, March 9
6:30–8:00 pm
Menlo Park Main Library:
Downstairs program room
A panel of artists, led by Nidhi Chanani (author of “Pashima”), talk about their paths to finding homes for their art, whether in print or online. Scheduled participants include Ajuan Mance, Mai Nguyen, Meggie Ramm, and Josh Elder.

COMICS-MAKING WORKSHOP
Saturday, March 14
1:00–2:00 pm
Menlo Park Main Library:
Downstairs program room
Registration recommended: Ages 8-14
Cartoonist and art instructor Khalid Birdsong, creator of the syndicated online comic strip “Little Fried Chicken and Sushi,” will help polish students’ comics-drawing skills in this fun class. Non-registered attendees will be admitted at 1:05, space permitting.

FILM SCREENING:
SHE MAKES COMICS
Monday, March 30
6:30–8:00 pm
Menlo Park Main Library:
Downstairs program room
Women have been writing, drawing, and reading comics since the medium’s beginnings in the late 19th century. Today, there are scores of women involved in comics and its vibrant fan culture. This documentary presents interviews with some of the most influential women in comics. Rated PG-13.
MARCH

SILLY GOOSE AND VAL
Sunday, March 8
2:00–3:00 pm
Belle Haven Branch
Drop-in: Ages 3+ with family

On tour from the East Coast! Enjoy a fast-paced, funny musical show featuring puppets, ventriloquism, dancing, singing, and “100% audience participation.”

COMICS-MAKING WORKSHOP
Saturday, March 14
1:00–2:00 pm
Main Library:
Downstairs program room
Registration recommended:
Ages 8-14

Cartoonist and teacher Khalid Birdsong, creator of the syndicated online comic strip “Little Fried Chicken and Sushi,” will help students polish their drawing skills in this fun class. Non-registered attendees will be admitted at 1:05, space permitting.

STORYTELLER JOHN WEAVER:
FANTASTICAL IRISH TALES
Tuesday, March 17
4:00–4:45 pm
Main Library:
Downstairs program room
Drop-in: Ages 5+

Laugh as you meet the legendary characters Oona McCool and Eileen O’Rourke, as well as the husbands they have to help out of some hilarious predicaments!

SCIENCE NIGHT
Thursday, March 19
6:30–8:30 pm
Main Library: Great Hall (after-hours)
Drop-in: Adults and children grades kindergarten and up.

Our 10th Science Night features after-hours, hands-on fun and fascination, with a wealth of visitors including Marine Science Institute and Science Made Fun.

BANANA SLUG STRING BAND:
DIRT MADE MY LUNCH
Sunday, March 22
2:00–2:45 pm
Belle Haven Branch
Drop-in: Primary schoolers with their families

Learn about earth science while singing along, during a lively, interactive concert of joyous music, plus puppets, theater, and surprises.
APRIL

MAGICAL NATHANIEL: 
BY THE NUMBERS
Sunday, April 5
2:00–3:00 pm
Belle Haven Branch
Drop-in: Ages 8 and up
Be entertained and informed about the 2020 Census during this brand-new show! Nathaniel’s numerical miracles astound even the skeptics, while emphasizing the importance of the Census.

MAD SCIENCE FUN STATION: 
ANIMAL TRACKS
Tuesday, April 7
4:00–5:00 pm
Main Library: Downstairs
Drop-in: Grades K-3
Explore the animal kingdom and learn about the habitats, anatomy, and life cycles of your favorite creatures! Make your own animal footprint to take home.

INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO
Thursday, April 16
6:30–8:30 pm
Main Library: Great Hall (after-hours)
Drop-in: Ages 10 and under, with family
Chamber Music by the Bay presents a brief after-hours musical program with, followed by a chance for children to get a feel for the instruments!

GET GROWING
Sunday, April 19
2:00–3:30 pm
Belle Haven Branch
In this family gardening program, you’ll learn how to create a garden, keep it healthy, and harvest the results. You’ll even get to plant a seed to take home to start your own garden!

SPRING CRAFT WORKSHOP
Saturday, April 25
10:30 am–Noon
Main Library: Downstairs Program Room
Drop in: All ages (over 17 must be accompanied by a child)
Celebrate spring with a garden-themed craft morning. Create Café will bring several fun projects for you to decorate your home for spring.
HOW TO REGISTER ONLINE
1. Choose the storytime that matches your child's age
Online Registration Begins
(Registration open until session full):
March sessions: Su, 2/16 at noon
April sessions: Su, 3/22 at noon
May sessions: Su, 4/19 at noon
2. Register online at
menlopark.org/Storytimes

Storytime

Storytime promotes the joy of reading, and helps to develop early literacy skills. Please model participation for your child! We offer storytimes in month-long, by-registration sessions. For those looking for a walk-in session, our “Family Storytime” and “Just for Everybody” sessions are designed to accommodate mixed ages and are available without registration.

JUST FOR BABIES
By registration: Ages 0–12 months
Celebrate the special bond between you and your baby! This program offers finger plays, puppets, bouncing, and books, all to encourage brain and language development.

JUST FOR ONES
By registration: Ages 12–24 months
This program is focused on language development and socialization through singing, stories, and interaction.

JUST FOR TWOS
By registration: Ages 24–36 months
Older tots enjoy simple books, rhyming games and songs that build the foundation for literacy. We will play while we learn!

JUST FOR ONES AND TWOS
By registration: Ages 12–36 months
Older tots enjoy simple books, rhyming games and songs that build the foundation for literacy. We will play while we learn!

JUST FOR PRESCHOOL
By registration: Ages 3–5 years
A mixed-age group, with a fun mix of material! Adults will participate along with the children in stories, games and activities aimed at strengthening vocabulary, socialization and other preschool skills.

JUST FOR EVERYBODY
Drop-in: All ages
This program is focused on language development and socialization through singing, rhymes and finger play. Fun for kids and their grown-ups in the Great Hall at Main Library!

FAMILY STORYTIME
Drop-in: All ages
We choose books and songs to span the age differences and engage the children on multiple levels. Fun for kids and their grown-ups in a small-group setting.

VIEW OUR EVENTS ONLINE AT menlopark.org/library
Special Programs

Volunteer With Us

Make a difference in your community by becoming a Menlo Park Library volunteer.

HOMEWORK CENTER
Offer afterschool homework help, including reading, writing, math, and science, for students in grades K-12 at the Belle Haven Branch Library.

Requirements
• Ages: 14+
• Commitment: Tutor for 2-3 hours a weeks for a minimum of six months.

To apply: homework@menlopark.org

PROJECT READ
Prefer working with adults? Help an adult English language learner achieve their goals and improve their reading, writing, and speaking skills.

Requirements
• Ages: 18+
• Commitment: Tutor for 2-3 hours a weeks for a minimum of six months.

To apply: projectread@menlopark.org

Belle Haven Homework Center

Need help with your homework?
Come to the Homework Center at the Belle Haven Branch Library! We’re offering free after-school homework help for students in grades K-12.

DROP-IN HOURS
Monday, 3:15–5:15 pm
Tuesday, 3:15–5:15 pm
Wednesday, 1:15–5:15 pm
Thursday, 3:15–5:15 pm

Science Night X

Thursday, March 19 | 6:30–8:30 pm | Main Library

Our tenth Science Night is coming! Join us after-hours for fun and fascination, with exhibits and hands-on activities, make-and-take projects, and experiments aimed at elementary school-aged children, all the way up to adults.

Presenters include:
• Marine Science Institute
• San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory
• Science Made Fun
• Space Cookies VEX Team 1868
**TEEN ADVISORY GROUP (T.A.G.)**

Help create, plan, and implement teen programs, advise the teen librarian in collection development, write book reviews, and promote the library.

**Requirements**
- Ages: 12–18
- Commitment: Attend a monthly meeting for a minimum of one year

**To apply:**
Gina Feil: gifeil@menlopark.org
650-330-2517

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**TEEN HENNA**

Wednesday, March 11  
3:30–5:00 pm  
Main Library: Downstairs  
Friday, March 13  
4:00–5:30 pm  
Belle Haven Branch: Teen Zone  
Registration Required: Grades 4-12  
Every teen will learn about traditional mehndi art, and receive a professional henna style from our Bay Area henna artist Rachel Anne Palacios. Express yourself with henna!

**DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB**

Saturday, March 14  
Saturday, April 11  
1:00–3:30 pm  
Main Library: Lab B  
Grades 6-12  
Monthly club for beginners of Dungeons & Dragons. Join us at Ravnica University, and come prepared for cityscapes, dungeons, potentially dragons, lots of dice and a great afternoon!

**TEEN GAMING**

Friday, March 20  
Friday, April 17  
3:00–5:00 pm  
Main Library: Teen Zone  
Grades 4-12  
Hang out with your friends and play the Nintendo Switch in our new Teen Zone! We’ll have monthly video gaming tournaments to test your skills against your friends.

**TEEN MOVIE & PIZZA**

Tuesday, March 31  
3:30–5:30 pm  
Main Library: Teen Zone  
Grades 4-12  
Staying in for Spring Break? Watch a teen movie and have some pizza in our Teen Zone!

**TEEN PLANT TERRARIUM**

Saturday, April 4  
3:00–4:30 pm  
Main Library: Downstairs  
Friday, April 10  
3:30–5:00 pm  
Belle Haven Branch: Teen Zone  
Registration Required: Grades 4-12  
Create a mini succulent plant terrarium! Space is limited for this craft by teaching artist Christie Inocencio.
This March-April, stop by the Main Library to enjoy our temporary exhibition, Seeds: Nature’s Artful Engineering.

As we introduce Seed Libraries at each of our library locations, this special installation vividly portrays the incredible diversity, ingenuity and beauty of seed dispersal mechanism of plants native to California. Seeds and their dispersal mechanisms are one of the final stages in the evolutionary biology of flowering plants.
MEET THE SEED LIBRARY
Wednesday, March 4
7:00–8:30 pm
Main Library: Fireside
The Menlo Park Library presents its brand-new Seed Library! We’ll answer your questions about how to “check out” seeds, best tips for growing, and more.

GARDENING, SIMPLIFIED
Saturday, March 21
1:00–2:30 pm
Belle Haven Branch
Get acquainted with the Belle Haven Branch’s new seed library, and also learn some great tips on how to start and maintain a garden, whether in the ground or in pots. Plant your own starter plant to take home!

BANANA SLUG STRING BAND:
DIRT MADE MY LUNCH
Sunday, March 22
2:00–2:45 pm
Belle Haven Branch
Drop-in: Primary schoolers with their families
Learn about earth science while singing along, during a lively, interactive concert of joyous music, plus puppets, theater, and surprises.

GARDENING, SIMPLIFIED
Saturday, March 21
1:00–2:30 pm
Belle Haven Branch
Get acquainted with the Belle Haven Branch’s new seed library, and also learn some great tips on how to start and maintain a garden, whether in the ground or in pots. Plant your own starter plant to take home!

GROWING GREAT TOMATOES
Wednesday, April 1
7:00–8:30 pm
Main Library: Fireside
Would you like to grow your own tomatoes—or have more success with the ones you are already growing? Come and learn how to start and care for tomato plants to get the best harvest.

JOAN MORRIS: GARDENING
WITH WILDLIFE
Tuesday, April 14
6:30–7:30 pm
Main Library: Fireside
Are deer munching your roses, squirrels hiding nuts in your pots, and raccoons tearing up your lawn? Bay Area News Group Pets and Wildlife columnist Joan Morris will tell you how to combat them without using lethal methods.

GET GROWING
Sunday, April 19
2:00–3:30 pm
Belle Haven Branch
In this family gardening program, you’ll learn how to create a garden, keep it healthy, and harvest the results. You’ll even get to plant a seed to take home to start your own garden!

SPRING CRAFT WORKSHOP
Saturday, April 25
10:30 am–Noon
Main Library: Downstairs program room
Drop in: All ages (over 17 must be accompanied by a child)
Celebrate spring with a garden-themed craft morning. Create Café will bring several fun projects for you to decorate your home for spring.
MARCH

SPINNERS MEET
Sunday, March 1
12:30–3:30 pm
Main Library: Fireside
Meet up with hand spinning enthusiasts to spin and share techniques and ideas on creating your own beautiful unique yarns. All skill levels welcome. Bring your spindles, spinning wheels or e-spinners!

FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Monday, March 2
6:30–7:45 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
Join other film fans and discuss a movie that played at the Aquarius Theatre the previous weekend.

WOMEN WHO IDENTIFY, RECRUIT AND ELECT
Monday, March 2
7:00–8:00 pm
Main Library: Fireside
Women’s Rights and Civil Rights activist Carolyn Mayer Marshall is the founder of WIRE, a non-partisan organization started to help women get elected or appointed to office in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties.

ADULT BOARD GAME MEETUP
Sunday, March 8
12:30–3:30 pm
Main Library: Main floor, past the Learning Lab
Enjoy this opportunity to socialize and perhaps try out a game you’ve never seen before. Try out the selection of games provided, or bring your own to share!

LITERATURE BOOK GROUP: TO THE LIGHTHOUSE
Tuesday, March 10
7:15–8:30 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
Virginia Woolf’s 1927 work is said to be “a novel to the last degree severe and uncompromising...beyond being about the very nature of reality, it is itself a vision of reality.”

MYSTERY READERS GROUP MEDIEVAL MYSTERIES CIRCA 1066–1485
Wednesday, March 18
7:00–9:00 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
In the medieval world, there were few local law forces. The sleuths in these mysteries tend to be medical practitioners, the clergy, or someone assigned by the local ruler.

SCI-FI/FANTASY BOOK GROUP: ARTEMIS
Monday, March 23
7:15–8:30 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
From Andy Weir, author of The Martian: Jazz has been smuggling contraband to the lunar city of Artemis for years, but when a job goes wrong she becomes embroiled in a dangerous conspiracy.

KNITTING MEETUP
Wednesday, March 25
7:00–9:00 pm
Main Library: Fireside
Get together with other adults for yarn arts & laughs! All are welcome, novice or pro.

Adults
LAUGHTER YOGA
Thursday, March 26
2:00–3:00 pm
Main Library: Downstairs
program room
Laughter is the best medicine! Laughter Yoga combines the healing benefits of yoga and laughter, and may even help participants alleviate stress and depression. No special clothing or equipment needed.

APRIL

ART THAT COUNTS
Wednesday, April 1
6:30–8:00 pm
Main Library: Downstairs
Advance Registration Required
Adults, sign up to be counted! Mark Census Day by creating art to celebrate your heritage. Art facilitator Christie Inocencio will bring all the supplies you need to create on canvas, in collage, and other methods.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES
Both the Main Library and Belle Haven Branch will be closed on Sunday, April 12.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
• menlopark.org/adults
• facebook.com/menloparklibrary
• 650-330-2501

Francisco Jiménez:
Living and Writing a Migrant’s Life
Thursday, April 2
6:30–8:00 pm
Main Library: Great Hall (after-hours)
The internationally-acclaimed author’s four-book series—The Circuit, Breaking Through, Reaching Out, Taking Hold—has been included in the American Library Association Booklist’s 50 Best Young Adult Books of All Time. Dr. Jiménez, who emigrated with his family from Tlaquepaque, Mexico to California and as a child worked alongside his parents in the fields of California, will talk about his life and career.

ADULT BOARD GAME MEETUP
Sunday, April 5
12:30–3:30 pm
Main Library: Main floor, past the learning labs
Enjoy this opportunity to socialize and perhaps try out a game you’ve never seen before. Try out the selection of games provided, or bring your own to share!

SPINNERS MEET
Sunday, April 5
12:30–3:30 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
Meet up with hand spinning enthusiasts to spin and share techniques and ideas on creating your own beautiful unique yarns. All skill levels welcome. Bring your spindles, spinning wheels or e-spinners!
Adults

FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Monday, April 6
6:30–7:45 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
Join other film fans and discuss a movie that played at the Aquarius Theatre the previous weekend.

FILM AND DISCUSSION:
CALIFORNIA’S FORGOTTEN CHILDREN
Wednesday, April 8
6:00–8:00 pm
Main Library: Downstairs event room
This award-winning documentary recounts true stories of girls and boys who were commercially sexually exploited in California and are now survivors and courageous leaders fighting for the rights of victims worldwide. Following the film, there will be a discussion with members of the Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition.

LITERATURE BOOK GROUP:
TRANSIT
Tuesday, April 14
7:15–8:30 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
The second novel in Rachel Cusk’s trilogy that began with Outline, one of The New York Times Book Review’s ten best books of 2015. In the wake of family collapse, a writer and her two young sons move to London.

MYSTERY READERS GROUP
THE AMERICAN WEST
Wednesday, April 15
7:00–9:00 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
When the sleuth is a Fish & Game Warden, things can get wild! Join us as we discuss mysteries set in our national parks, and wherever else the western meets crime fiction.

KNITTING MEETUP
Wednesday, April 22
7:00–9:00 pm
Main Library: Fireside
Get together with other adults for yarn arts & laughs! All are welcome, novice or pro.

SCI-FI/FANTASY BOOK GROUP:
THE COLOR OF MAGIC
Monday, April 27
7:15–8:30 pm
Main Library: Learning Lab
The first novel in Terry Pratchett’s extensive Discworld series. The tour-ist Twoflower and his wizard guide, Rincewind, stumble through a series of Death-defying adventures.

“SO, WHAT ARE YOU?”
Wednesday, April 29
7:00–8:00 pm
Main Library: Fireside
On the eve of the 40th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, Judi Le shares her story: her family fled Vietnam, landing in an Arkansas refugee camp, then settling in Katy, Texas. In a moving and hilarious performance, Le recounts her struggles as a young girl straddling two cultures.

NOVELIST
Trying to find your next great read? The library catalog now has integrated book recommendations from Novelist. When you search the catalog you’ll see Novelist recommendations for other books you might enjoy.

Need something compelling to keep you reading until your hold comes in? Click on the “While You Wait” link to find great titles that are available today.
See you at the library!

EVENT: ____________________________
DATE: ____________________________
TIME: ____________________________
LOCATION: ________________________

Show this postcard at a library event in March or April for a chance to win a prize.

From:
See you at the library!

EVENT: ____________________________
DATE: ______________________________
TIME: ______________________________
LOCATION: __________________________

Show this postcard at a library event in March or April for a chance to win a prize.

From:

MENLO PARK LIBRARY