

Programs & Exhibits

September through November 2024

RANCHO MIRAGE
LIBRARY & OBSERVATORY

Library Hours

Monday to Saturday
9 am to 6 pm

Closed Sundays

Library Closures

Labor Day
Monday, September 2

Veterans Day
Monday, November 11

Early Closures
Library closes at 5 pm
Wednesday, November 27

Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 28
Friday, November 29
Saturday, November 30

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Cover Image: Celebrating Día de los Muertos, design by Rachel Horwitz Design Group



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 ranchomiragelibrary.org or by scanning the QR code below.

Welcome to Your Rancho Mirage Library *and* Observatory

As the triple digit temperatures begin to taper off here in the desert, we're thrilled to present our fall lineup, filled with both beloved favorites and exciting new programs we've been eager to share with you. For the first time, we're offering an **astrophotography lecture series**, where you can learn to capture the stunning beauty of the night sky with expert guidance. Our new **Romance Book Club** will have you falling in love with a selection of swoon-worthy titles to discuss. And we're delighted to partner with the Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission to host a special **Día de los Muertos Celebration**. We'll honor this vibrant tradition with community activities and a family-friendly concert featuring Jarabe Mexicano on October 30. We'll of course continue offering all the other programs you've come to love, but we hope these exciting additions will inspire you to explore and connect with our community in new ways.

Additional Highlights

- **Docu-Mondays** continue in September with four diverse documentaries featuring the kind of unique and memorable subjects found only in nonfiction storytelling (page 12).
- The **Rancho Mirage Writers Series** sponsored by Jordan Schnitzer kicks off on October 15 with Anita McBride discussing her book *Remember the First Ladies* (page 28).
- It's **Mario's birthday**! Join us on October 11 to celebrate everyone's favorite video game plumber with fun activities and Mario Kart on the big screen (page 21).
- The City of Rancho Mirage is proud to be teaming up with Riverside County Animal Services for the **Rancho Mirage Rescue Rally Pet Adoption & Wellness Fair** on October 12—a perfect opportunity to find a furry new friend (page 6).
- Fall into a musical fairytale unlike anything you've seen before as the Library and Observatory's youth theatre program presents ***Into the Woods JR.*** on November 23 and 24 (page 18).

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 supporting the Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory Foundation.

We look forward to seeing you this fall!
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.

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Rancho Mirage Rescue Rally Pet Adoption & Wellness Fair



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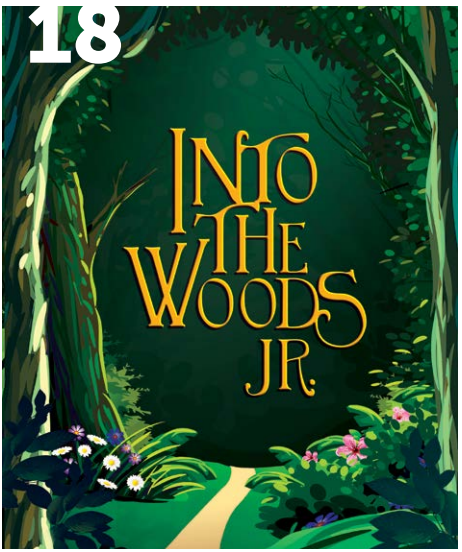
Complete Calendar of Activities **35**

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.



Bruce Feagle's Guide to Astrophotography



Into the Woods JR.

Community Showcase

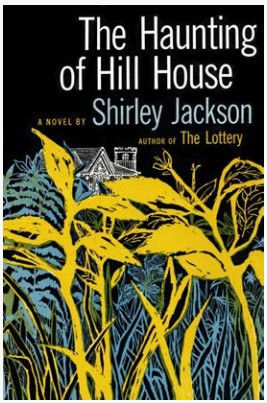
Book Discussion Group

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, please contact Reference Librarian Jeffery Durham at (760) 341-7323 ext. 681 or email JefferyD@ranchomiragelibrary.org.

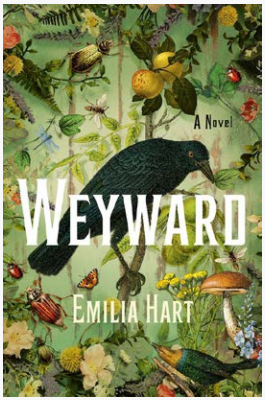
Friday, September 13
10–11 am
Trust
by Hernan Diaz



Friday, October 11
10–11 am
The Haunting of Hill House
by Shirley Jackson



Friday, November 8
10–11 am
Weyward
by Emilia Hart





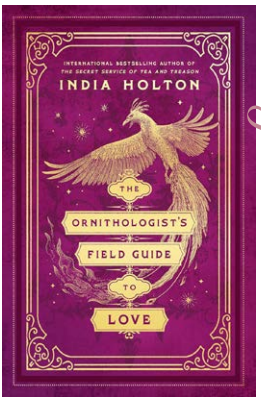
Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory Foundation Pop Up Book Sales

All sale proceeds directly support the Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory Foundation.

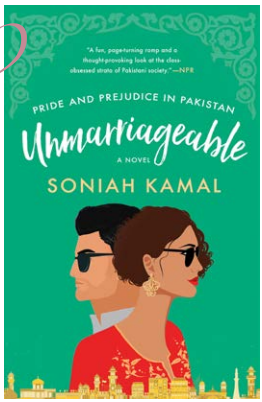
Romance Book Club

Get ready to fall in love this autumn with our new Romance Book Club. Join us on the fourth Saturday of the month to discuss and swoon over a selection of titles. No advance sign-up is necessary! Be sure to book your calendars. If you have any questions or for more information, please contact Library Coordinator, Kaila Waybright at (760) 341-7323 ext. 622 or email KailaW@ranchomiragelibrary.org.

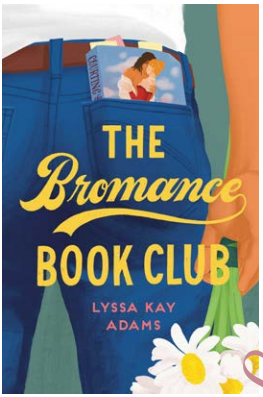
Saturday, September 28, 10–11 am
The Ornithologist's Field Guide to Love by India Holton



Saturday, October 26, 10–11 am
Unmarriageable by Soniah Kamal



Saturday, November 23, 10–11 am
The Bromance Book Club by Lyssa Kay Adams



Shredding and E-Waste Collection

Thursday, October 10, 8 am–12 pm
Thursday, November 14, 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. For more information visit ranchomirageca.gov.

Friday, October 4, 9 am–4 pm
Saturday, October 5, 9 am–4 pm
Friday, November 1, 9 am–4 pm
Saturday, November 2, 9 am–4 pm



Rancho Mirage Rescue Rally Pet Adoption & Wellness Fair

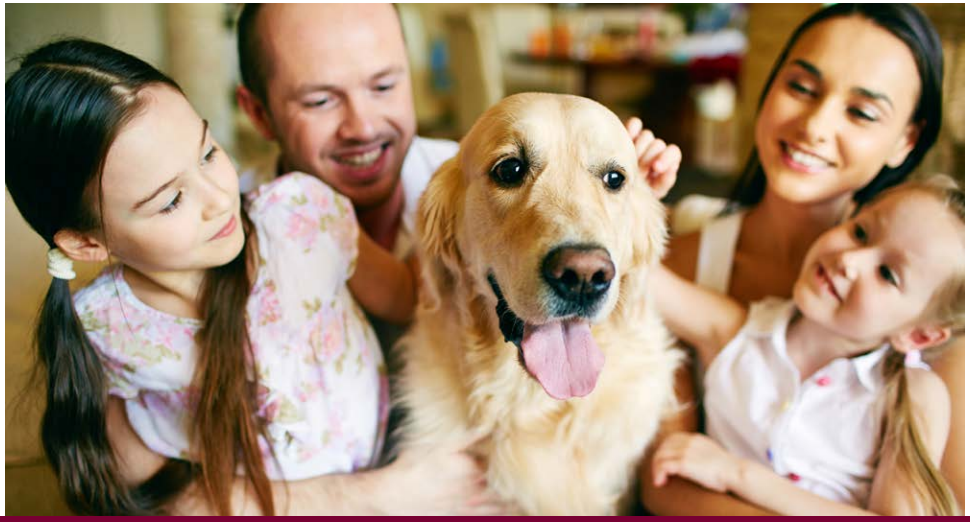
Saturday, October 12, 9 am–2 pm

Our community is coming together to find homes and make an impact for animals in need in the Coachella Valley! The City of Rancho Mirage is teaming up with Riverside County Animal Services and other local animal welfare organizations to find homes and provide healthcare services in this very special event. **We'll have a huge selection of adoptable dogs onsite just waiting to meet their forever families along with animal healthcare and wellness services available (be on the lookout for more details leading up to the event)**. ZOOM on over to the Library on Saturday, October 12... you just might find a new best friend to take home! For more information and questions, visit ranchomirageca.gov or email marketing@ranchomirageca.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES
County of Riverside, California













Día de los Muertos Celebration presented by the Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission

Wednesday, October 30, 5–8 pm

CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE

RANCHO MIRAGE
CULTURAL COMMISSION

Kick off this year's **Día de los Muertos** celebrations by joining us for a fun and festive celebration the whole family will enjoy! Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a traditional Mexican festival to remember and celebrate loved ones who are no longer present. Tables, ranging from simple to elaborate, are decorated to honor deceased friends and family. These altars, called ofrendas, are covered with photos, lights, food, marigolds, and thank you gifts. Lots of skeletons and skulls can be seen during Día de los Muertos, but they are not meant to be spooky, and many are quite fun. Orange marigold garlands, monarch butterflies, and brightly colored tissue paper cut in intricate designs (called papel picado) decorate homes and patios during the festival. Take part with us by enjoying fun activities and crafts and adding photos or drawings of your own family and community members to our ofrendas at the Library. Then wrap up your evening with a very special family-friendly Día de los Muertos concert presentation in the Community Room with **Jarabe Mexicano at 7 pm** (learn more about this amazing group of musicians and cultural ambassadors on page 11)!

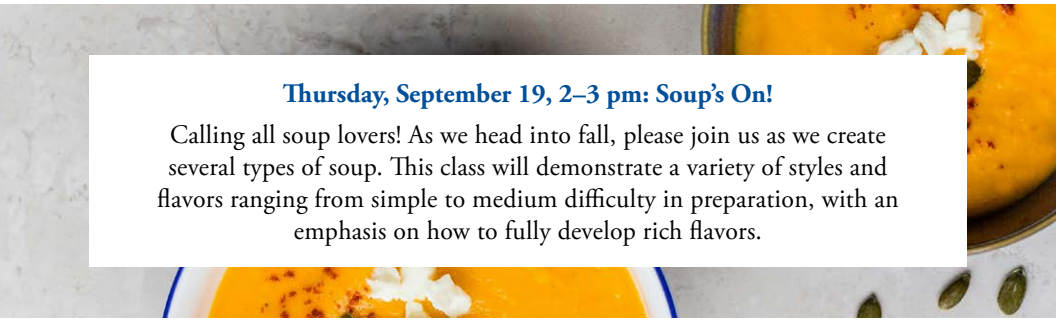
Lectures

Shannon Bush
Plant-Based Cooking Series



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!

This program is made possible by a generous gift from Gerald and Lori Ernst.



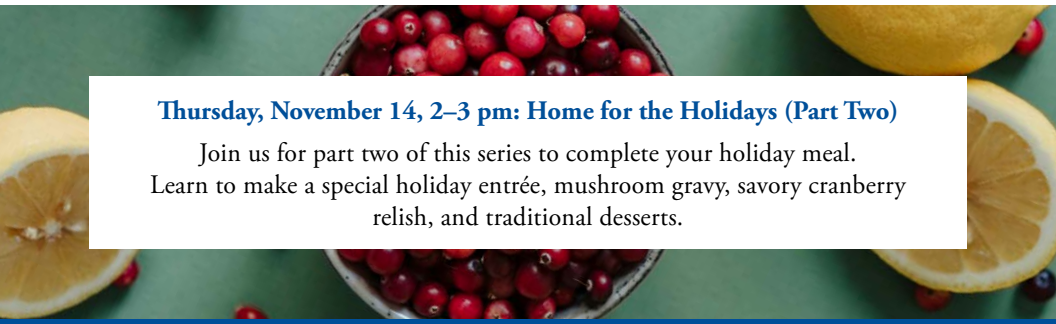
Thursday, September 19, 2–3 pm: Soup's On!

Calling all soup lovers! As we head into fall, please join us as we create several types of soup. This class will demonstrate a variety of styles and flavors ranging from simple to medium difficulty in preparation, with an emphasis on how to fully develop rich flavors.



Thursday, October 17, 2–3 pm: Home for the Holidays (Part One)

Get ready for the holidays with this two-part series that will cover preparation of a complete holiday meal. Part one of this series will teach you how to make the delicious, essential side dishes that make a meal with family and friends memorable.



Thursday, November 14, 2–3 pm: Home for the Holidays (Part Two)

Join us for part two of this series to complete your holiday meal. Learn to make a special holiday entrée, mushroom gravy, savory cranberry relish, and traditional desserts.

Goldie Jacoby • What Holocaust?

Tuesday, September 24, 2–3 pm,
Wednesday, September 25, 7–8 pm



Goldie Jacoby was born on May 15, 1937. She lived with her family in Katowice, Poland, which Nazi Germany annexed in September 1939. Upon visiting her grandparents in the small Polish town of Frishtak in 1942, Goldie's family found despairing sadness. The Nazis were on the march. At just five years old, she began to witness unforgettable horrors, including the death of her grandparents at the hands of the Nazis. Her family was forced to flee, running and hiding for survival and begging for food. Even though they were hungry, thirsty, sore, and full of lice, local farmers refused to help Jews. Jacoby spent her sixth, seventh, and eighth birthdays in hiding.

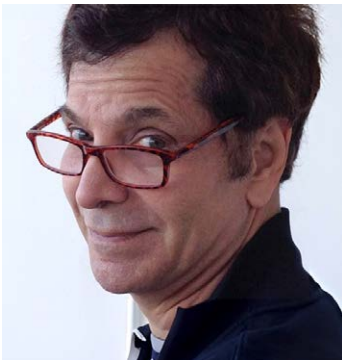
Now a Holocaust educator, Jacoby is the author of three books: the memoir *What Holocaust?*, an account of her husband's Holocaust survival story in *God Forsaken*, and a collection of poetry in *Life Goes On*. She continues to speak about her experiences during one of the darkest times in human history in hopes that the horror she faced will never be repeated. Please join us to hear directly from Jacoby in this very special program.

Learning in Retirement Series

The Library is excited to be partnering with Learning in Retirement (LIR) to offer free programs for area seniors. Learning in Retirement's curriculum is taught by local experts and is designed specifically for those ages 50 and above who want to learn for the pure enjoyment of learning. Discover all of the programs offered by Learning in Retirement by visiting lirpalmdesert.com.

Steve Bluestein • The Comedy Boom: How and Why It Started

Thursday, October 3, 2–3:30 pm



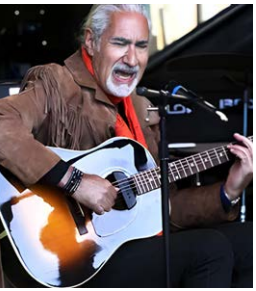
Steve Bluestein is a stand-up comedian, TV writer and producer, playwright, and author. His talent has been honed from years of pounding the boards in Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Reno, Tahoe, and countless comedy clubs across the nation. Bluestein was born in Boston, but his heart was always in New York, where he moved directly after graduating from Emerson College. It was there he first went to Budd Friedman's Improv and got bitten by the comedy bug. Moving to Los Angeles, he immediately became one of the Comedy Store regulars and was a member of the Comedy Store Players as well as a founding member of The Groundlings. It was there, at The Groundlings, he learned the improvisational skills he continues to use in his stand-up act. Join us in the Community Room for a comedy history lesson that is sure to include plenty of laughs.

Music

The Eldermen

Wednesday, October 2, 7–8 pm

The Eldermen are a musical group of wise elder men whose music transcends the boundaries of traditional genres. Band members **Kim Margolis**, **Robin Hild**, **Raspin Stuart**, and **Bob Conti** believe that music is a conduit for the divine order of things—a way to spread love, peace, and harmony—stage by stage and song by song. In addition to embodying light and consciousness, the Eldermen do so with an added layer of humor and lightheartedness. Their music and live performances are never to be missed.






Coachella Valley Classical Voices

Wednesday, October 9, 7–8 pm

One of California's newest nonprofit organizations, **Coachella Valley Classical Voices**, returns to the Library for a second year. Under the artistic direction of founder **Doug Nagel**, with pianists **Kurt Jordan** and **Julie Adams**, CVCV brings over thirty artists singing incredible sounds of soaring melodies from the best of Broadway and opera in this hour-long program.





The Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission presents Jarabe Mexicano • Día de los Muertos Concert

Wednesday, October 30, 7–8 pm

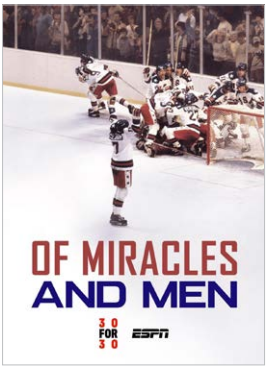
Mexican-American border band **Jarabe Mexicano** joins us for a very special Día de los Muertos Celebration with their blended songbook of Mexican Folk music, Rock & Roll, Norteño/Tex-Mex, Latin Rock, and Reggae-Cumbia. Performing on stringed folk instruments accompanied by lively percussion, the band's down-to-earth charm and harmonized vocals in Spanish and English have gained them acclaim from audiences across the country.

Lauded as cultural ambassadors by the Mexican Consulate in the United States, Jarabe believes every performance is an opportunity to create a deeper and more inclusive sense of community. This all-ages concert will feature music and personal stories to help us celebrate and remember those we love who are no longer with us. From romantic ballads fit for a loving serenade to exuberant dance music that will bring people out of their seats, this border fiesta will be one to remember!

This program is made possible by the Rancho Mirage Cultural Commission.

Film

Docu-Mondays



Join us on Mondays in September to enjoy a curated line-up of diverse documentaries on the big screen in the air-conditioned comfort of the Library's Community Room.

Of Miracles and Men (2015)
Monday, September 9, 2–3:45 pm

An exploration of the 1980 "Miracle on Ice" from the point of view of the defeated Soviet Union ice hockey team.

The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters (2007)
Monday, September 16, 2–3:30 pm

Die-hard gamers compete to break world records on classic arcade games.

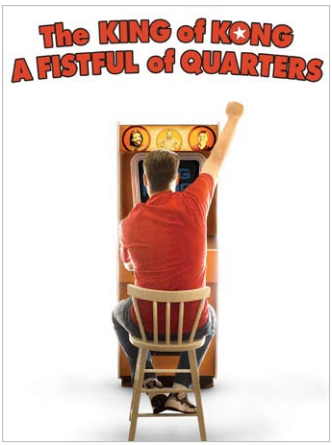
Roger and Me (1989) • Monday, September 23, 2–3:35 pm

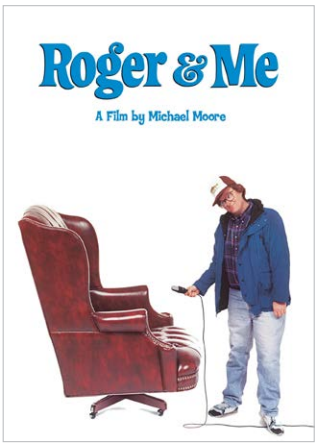
After General Motors closes its factory in Flint, Michigan, eliminating 35,000 jobs, filmmaker Michael Moore undertakes a quixotic quest to interview General Motors' chairman, Roger B. Smith.

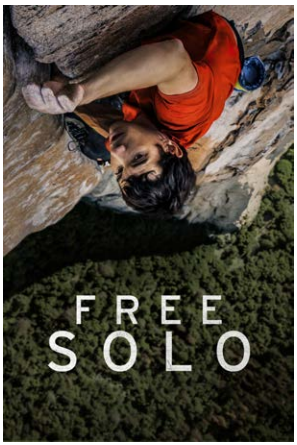
Free Solo (2018) • Monday, September 30, 2–3:40 pm

Alex Honnold faces the biggest challenge of his career, climbing El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. He pursues it free solo, which means climbing without a rope and alone.

Docu-Mondays are made possible by a generous gift from Gerald and Lori Ernst.







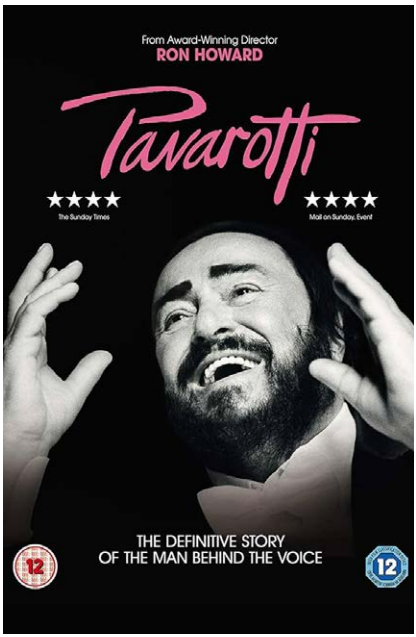
Robert D. Kline • *The Reagans: The Legacy Endures*

Thursday, October 10, 2–5 pm



Ronald Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, passed away just over 20 years ago. Mark the occasion by joining us to experience the astonishing political career of one of the most influential and popular political figures of the past six decades. This remarkable, feature length look at Reagan's achievements is packed with incredible archival footage. From his early political career to his eight years leading his country, Reagan changed the face of modern American politics. His legacy continues with this essential portrait of one of America's most important leaders.

Director **Robert D. Kline** will introduce the film and take questions following the screening. Kline has been the Executive Vice President of 20th Century Fox, the co-founder of Lifetime Television, and producer of Oliver Stone's highly acclaimed film *Heaven and Earth*. In addition, he taught at USC for over 30 years. His award-winning profile series, *A Moment in Time*, includes Lady Bird Johnson, Princess Grace, and Gloria Steinem. Most recently, Kline helped to produce *On the Wings of Penguins*, directed by his partner Stephanie Heredia.



Pavarotti Documentary Screening with Palm Springs Opera Guild

Wednesday, October 16, 1–4 pm

He was the greatest operatic tenor of the last half-century, and, in ability, presence, persona, and generosity, he was genuinely larger than life. Director Ron Howard delivers a remarkable documentary look at the times and talent of Luciano Pavarotti, using interviews with family and intimate and rare performance footage to examine the gregarious yet flawed man behind the legend, as well as his considerable impact in building appreciation of his art form for a global generation.

Join the **Palm Springs Opera Guild** for this special afternoon screening and discussion featuring local opera experts and performers that will provide additional context to this incredible film.

Challenges to Democracy: Power Politics in Film

Award-winning educator **James Griswold** returns to present another series of classic films. Griswold will introduce four films exploring the intersections of power, politics, and American culture and provide some questions to consider as you watch. Each screening with be followed up with an informal "talk-back" session for those interested.

Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939)

Monday, October 7, 1–3:30 pm

A naive youth leader is appointed to fill a vacancy in the U.S. Senate. His idealistic plans promptly collide with corruption at home and subterfuge from his heroic turn in Washington, but he tries to forge ahead despite attacks on his character. Starring James Stewart, Jean Arthur, and Claude Rains.



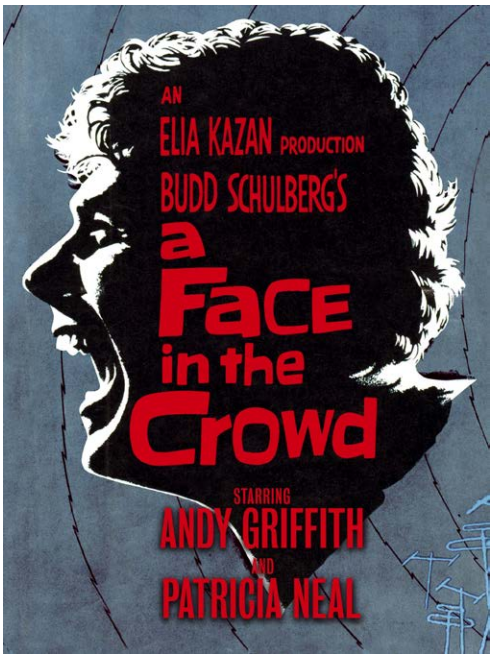
James Stewart in *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*

A Face in the Crowd (1957)

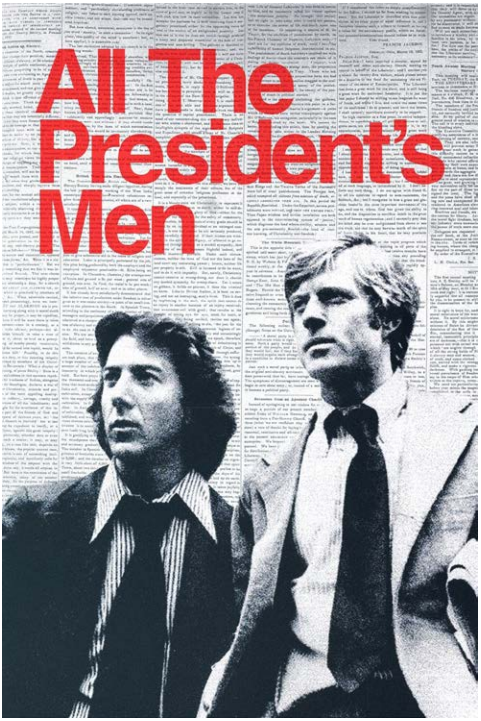
Monday, October 14, 1–3:30 pm

A female radio reporter turns a folk-singing drifter into a powerful media star. Starring Andy Griffith, Patricia Neal, Walter Matthau, Tony Franciosa, and Lee Remick.









The Manchurian Candidate (1962)

Monday, October 21, 1–3:30 pm

An American POW in the Korean War is brainwashed as an unwitting assassin for an international communist conspiracy. Starring Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, Janet Leigh, and Angela Lansbury.

All the President's Men (1976)

Monday, October 28, 1–3:30 pm

The Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein uncover the details of the Watergate scandal that leads to President Richard Nixon's resignation. Starring Dustin Hoffman, Robert Redford, Jason Robards, and Jack Warden.

This series is made possible by a generous gift from Gerald and Lori Ernst.

Observatory

International Observe the Moon Night

Saturday, September 14, 7:30–9 pm

Join us at the Observatory as we celebrate International Observe the Moon Night! International Observe the Moon Night is an annual event focused on learning about lunar science and exploration, taking part in celestial observations, and honoring cultural and personal connections to the Moon. 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.

Bruce Feagle's Guide to Astrophotography—Introductory to Advanced

Embark on a celestial adventure with renowned astrophotographer **Bruce Feagle** as he presents an astrophotography lecture series. Over three evenings, Bruce will share how to capture basic images of the night sky, level-up your astrophotography techniques, and transform your raw images into stunning celestial art. Whether you're a novice eager to take your first night sky shot or a seasoned photographer looking to refine your skills, this series will equip you with the knowledge and inspiration to capture the cosmos in all its glory.

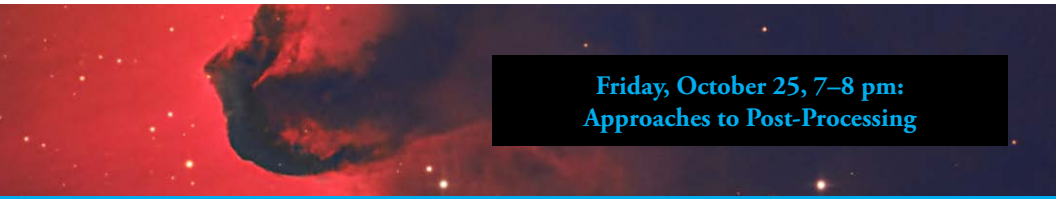
Each one-hour lecture will be followed by an opportunity to visit the Observatory and ask questions about Bruce's astrophotography setup. Patrons may experience a short wait. Attending all three lectures in the series is strongly recommended, but not required.



Friday, October 4, 7–8 pm:
Foundations in Astrophotography



Friday, October 18, 7–8 pm:
Techniques for Capturing Stunning Images



Friday, October 25, 7–8 pm:
Approaches to Post-Processing

SPACEducation Sessions (Ages 7–13)

Young astronomers are invited to join the Observatory Team for SPACEducation (Scientific Phenomena and Cosmic Education) Sessions. Through a series of hands-on activities, we will investigate the inner workings of the Universe. Both sessions will offer identical activities. All participants must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration is required. Visit ranchomiragelibrary.org.**

Friday, October 11, 7–8:30 pm • Friday, November 8, 6–7:30 pm

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**.

Observatory Public Exploration Nights

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/stargazing.**



Theatre



Into the Woods JR.

Be careful what you wish for, as Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's cockeyed fairytale comes to life in this adaptation of their groundbreaking, Tony Award-winning musical. *Into the Woods JR.* features all of your favorite characters—Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk), and the Witch—in this lyrically rich retelling of classic Brothers Grimm fables.

Auditions

Tuesday, September 3 through Thursday, September 5

Local youth ages 7–17 can audition to join our production of *Into the Woods JR.* Auditions will take place at the Library. **To learn more and register, visit deserttheatricals.com/junior-theatre.** There is no cost to audition or take part in our youth theatre program. Join the fairytale to have fun, make friends, and learn new skills. The experience includes fully orchestrated show music, amazing costumes, professional scenery and props, performances on the Community Room stage, and instruction from award-winning theatre professionals!

Performances

Saturday, November 23, 6–7 pm • Sunday, November 24, 2–3 pm and 6–7 pm

Performances will take place in the Library's Community Room. Admission to the performance is free, however tickets are required. Visit www.desert-theatricals.com to reserve your tickets.

Coming in Spring 2025: *Honk JR.*

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.

Desert Theatricals

Richard Brooke Foundation
Saving Seeds for Good Deeds

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

Celebrating Five Years of Award-Winning Youth Theatre

It seems hard to believe, but with *Into the Woods JR.* this fall we are entering our fifth year of youth theatre productions here at the Library! With the steadfast leading support of the Richard Brooke Foundation, and additional assistance from the Anderson Children's Foundation, we have staged seven full-scale musicals and three plays since the program's inception. Scores of local youths have taken part in the program at no cost to their families, and thousands of attendees have enjoyed the entertaining, professionally produced shows. While our productions and many participants have been recognized with awards from the Desert Theatre League and California Library Association, it's the positive impact the program has had on the children of our local community that brings us the most pride. We hope to see you at the next show!
















"I wish that I could find a way to eloquently put into words the significant role this amazing youth theatre program has had in my family's life. Our children are undoubtedly changed for the better because of the tireless efforts of all those involved in this program." —Julie Seiders, Youth Theatre Parent

Kids *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 4, 3–4 pm • Wednesday, September 18, 3–4 pm
Wednesday, October 2, 3–4 pm • Wednesday, October 16, 3–4 pm
Wednesday, November 6, 3–4 pm • Wednesday, November 20, 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 4, 4–5 pm

Arrrrgh! 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.

Mario's Birthday Celebration

Friday, October 11, 4–5:30 pm

It's-a me, Mario! You are invited to Mario's birthday celebration. We encourage you to come dressed as your favorite Mario character or don your best Mario t-shirt. Join us for a variety of fun activities and community friendly Mario Kart competitions. Let's-a-go!



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



Photos: NASA/JPL-Caltech

Design It • Make It

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

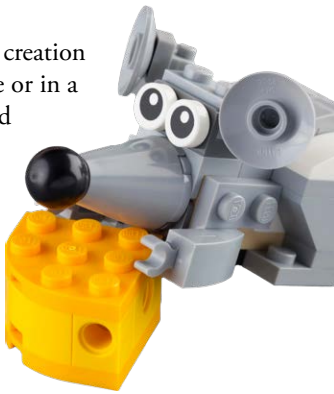
Hovercraft

Friday, September 20, 4–5 pm

Are you ready to make a CD hover off a table? Come design your own hovercraft and watch it float!

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.



Favorite Animal • Wednesday, September 25, 4–5 pm

Halloween • Wednesday, October 23, 4–5 pm

What Are You Thankful For?
Wednesday, November 20, 4–5 pm



Halloween Spooktacular

Saturday, October 26, 1–3 pm

Join us for trick or treating and a costume parade throughout the Library. Afterwards, at 2 pm join us for an afternoon full of laughs with **Magician Billy Bonkers**!

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.

Time to Shine! • **Friday, September 27, 4–5 pm**

By Catherine Daly (no A.R. level)

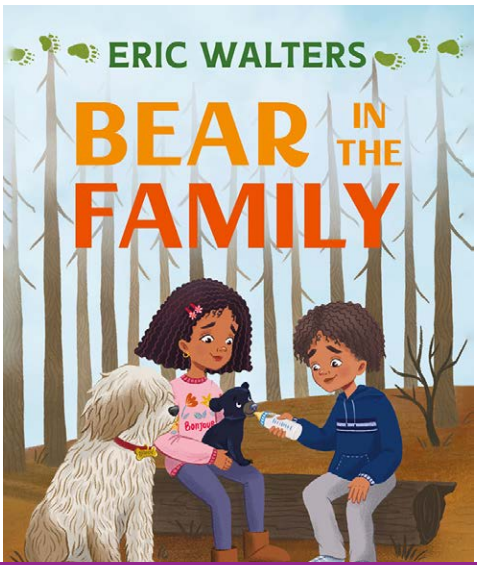
See STEAM Reads on page 24 for more details

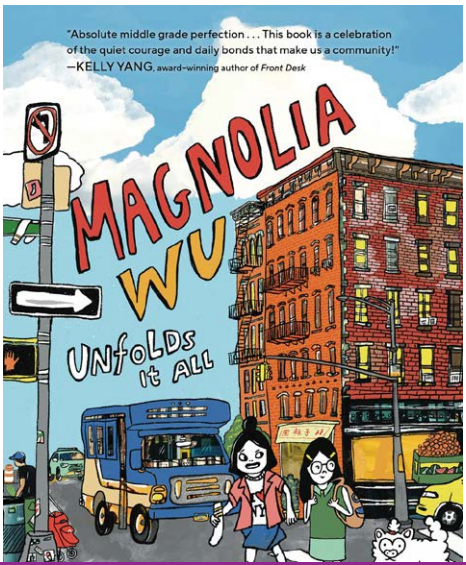
Bear in the Family • **Friday, October 25, 4–5 pm**

By Eric Walters (no A.R. level)

Magnolia Wu Unfolds it All • **Friday, November 22, 4–5 pm**

By Chanel Miller (no A.R. level)





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.

Alebrijes **• Monday, September 9, 4–5 pm**

By Donna Barba Higuera (A.R. level 4.7)

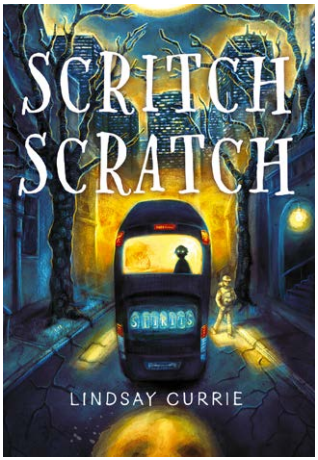
Scritch Scratch **• Monday, October 14, 4–5 pm**

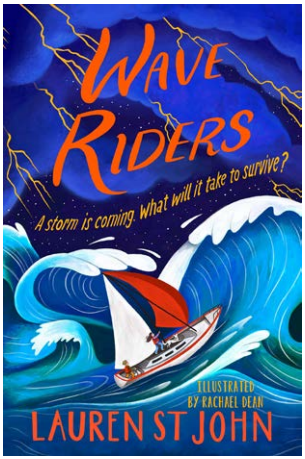
By Lindsay Currie (A.R. level 4.3)

Wave Riders **• Monday, November 4, 4–5 pm**

By Lauren St. John (no A.R. level)







Día de los Muertos • Family Activities

Wednesday, October 30, 5–7 pm

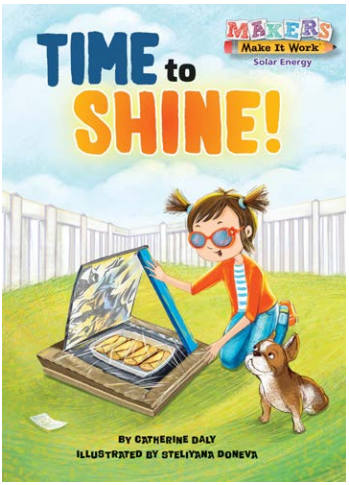
As part of our Día de los Muertos celebration we invite families to join us throughout the Library for an afternoon of fun sugar skull crafts, paper marigold pleating, mask-making, and more.

STEAM Reads

We're excited to bring you a second volume of STEAM Reads programming made possible thanks to the Anderson Children's Foundation. Our STEAM Reads program highlights 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. **Registration for each session is required. Visit ranchomiragelibrary.org to register.**

Time to Shine! Book Discussion (Ages 7–9)

Friday, September 27, 4–5 pm



Boom! Thunder crashes and lightning strikes causing the electricity to go out in *Time to Shine!* Can Sammi save the day using solar power? Register online and pick up a copy of the book in the Children's Room to find out. For the first half hour we will be discussing the book, and an activity will be planned for the second half hour.

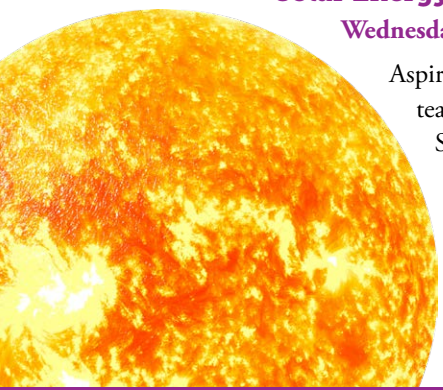
DIY Solar Oven (Ages 7+)

Saturday, October 5, 1–2:30 pm

Join us in capturing solar energy (heat) from the sun by customizing a pizza box and turning it into a solar oven. A solar oven catches sunlight by using a reflector (tin foil) to reflect it onto a black surface (construction paper). The black surface transforms the light into heat—a bit like how heat gets trapped in a car on a hot day. A solar oven cooks food at a low heat slowly over a long period of time. We will provide all the necessary supplies to create your own oven and, if you like, to cook a s'more.

Solar Energy: Secrets of the Sun (Grades 3–7)

Wednesday, October 9, 4–5 pm



Aspiring astronomers are invited to join the Observatory team as we investigate our friendly neighborhood star: the Sun! Participants will learn about special features on the Sun that we observe regularly here at the Observatory and get up close with our solar telescope (weather permitting). We will also offer a hands-on activity, encouraging young astronomers to explore the effects of direct versus indirect sunlight here on Earth.

Solar Beetles (Ages 7+) • Friday, October 18, 4–5 pm

Participants will design and decorate a paper beetle and add a solar cell and vibrating motor with conductive tape. Once these little bugs are placed in the sun, they'll wiggle and move—never running out of power because they operate off solar energy!

Exploring Zion National Park's Topography (Grades 3–7)
Tuesday, October 22, 4–5 pm

Zion has many different geologic features which can be better understood by looking at topographic maps. Students will learn the difference between a regular map and a topographic map. They will then create their own topographic map of Crater Hill in Zion National Park.

Discover Where the Sky Lives (Grades 3–7) • Friday, November 1, 6–7 pm

Tour the night sky with your unaided eye and take in magnified views of celestial objects through our PlaneWave Instruments CDK 700 telescope. Investigate the effects that different types of lighting have on our night sky and learn strategies that can help you preserve darkness just like 12-year-old amateur astronomer Tuesday Beals in *Where the Sky Lives* by Margaret Dilloway. **All participants must be accompanied by an adult and registration is required for all attendees.**

Digital Photography: Rule of Thirds (Grades 3–7)
Thursday, November 7, 4–5 pm

The *rule of thirds* is one of the most popular "rules" of composition. We'll look at a variety of photographs that follow the *rule of thirds* and then apply this technique ourselves by taking photos around the Library. Attendees are asked to bring a device that has a digital camera such as an old cell phone, iPad, or digital camera. Please inquire ahead if you need to borrow a device from the Library to participate**.**

Margaret Dilloway Author Visit (Grades 3–7)
Friday, November 15, 4–5 pm



The first 30 registrants will receive a free copy of the book. Register starting Monday, October 14. Dilloway will be discussing her novel *Where the Sky Lives*. The story follows twelve-year-old amateur astronomer Tuesday Beals. Tuesday navigates friendship, change, grief, and loss while trying to preserve the land around Zion National Park where she and her mother, the park archeologist, live. Followed by a Q&A and signing.

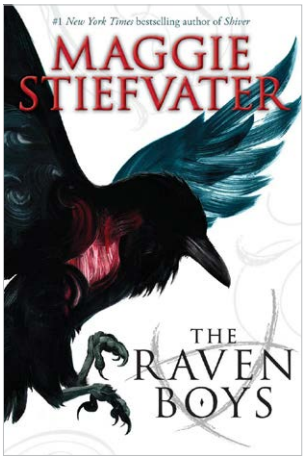
Birthday Bling Book Discussion (Ages 7–9) • Tuesday, November 19, 4–5 pm

The first 30 registrants will receive a free copy of the book. Register starting Friday, October 18. In *Birthday Bling (Dollars to Doughnuts Book 1): Spending*, Lucy is excited to receive a card—the plastic kind!—for her birthday. However, she runs into a problem at the store when it isn't enough to cover her purchase. We'll help readers understand finance facts that include the difference between gift cards, credit cards, and debit cards. After discussing the book, participants will get to decorate and personalize a STEAM Reads tote bag.

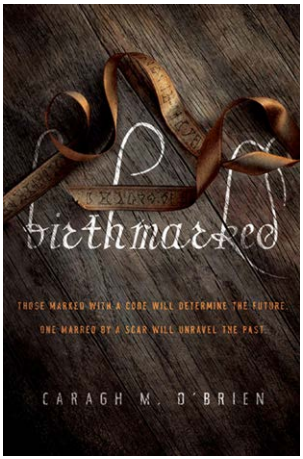
Teens

Book Discussion Group (Grades 6-12)

Snacks will be provided, and registration is required. **Visit ranchomiragelibrary.org to register.**







The Raven Boys by Maggie Stiefvater

Wednesday, September 4, 4:30–5:30 pm

For as long as she can remember, Blue Sargent has been warned that she will cause her true love to die. She doesn't believe in true love, and never thought this would be a problem. But as her life becomes caught up in the strange and sinister world of the Raven Boys, she's not so sure anymore. **The first 10 registrants will receive a free copy of the book.**

The Revenant Games by Margie Fuston

Wednesday, October 2, 4:30–5:30 pm

For most humans, the Revenant Games are a ticket out of poverty. For seventeen-year-old Bly, they are a chance to get back her dead sister, Elise, and save the life of her dying best friend, Emerson. Bly and Emerson forge a dangerous plan to play both sides—for the enemy vampire and witch kingdoms. **The first 10 registrants will receive a free copy of the book.**

Birthmarked by Caragh M. O'Brien

Wednesday, November 6, 4:30–5:30 pm

Sixteen-year-old midwife Gaia Stone has always believed it is her duty, with her mother, to hand over a small quota of babies to the Enclave. But when Gaia's mother and father are arrested by the very people they so dutifully serve, Gaia is forced to question everything she has been taught to believe. Gaia's choice is now simple: enter the world of the Enclave to rescue her parents or die trying **The first 10 registrants will receive a free copy of the book.**

Activities (Grades 6–12)

Join us for these free activities.

Dungeons and Dragons • Saturday, September 7, 2–4 pm, Saturday, October 12, 2–4 pm, Saturday, November 9, 2–4 pm

Start your adventure! Join us in this role-playing game by creating characters, battling adversaries, finding treasure, and more. Beginners welcome! **Registration is required. Visit ranchomiragelibrary.org.**









Anime Club • Thursday, September 12, 4–5:30 pm

Watch the anime *Fruits Basket* (2019), episodes 1–3.

Craft: Altoids Wallet • Thursday, September 26, 4–5:30 pm

Recycle a versatile candy tin into a wallet. Tins can hold IDs, money, AirPods, lip balm, and more. We'll decorate our tins using photos, paper, stickers, ribbons, and mini mirrors.

Anime Club • Thursday, October 17, 4–5:30 pm

Watch the anime *Erased* (2016), episodes 1–3.

Craft: Pumpkin Craft Box • Thursday, October 24, 4–5:30 pm

Recycle a paper towel roll by creating a festive fall pumpkin box. Use this box as a gift box, centerpiece, or seasonal decoration.

Anime Club • Thursday, November 14, 4–5:30 pm

Watch the anime *Spice and Wolf: Merchant Meets the Wise Wolf* (2008), episodes 1–3.

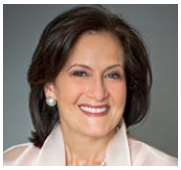
Craft: Beginner Crochet • Thursday, November 21, 4–5:30 pm

Learn to crochet by practicing two basic stitches and you'll be crocheting hats and scarves in no time! We'll learn the chain stitch (CH) and single crochet (SC) stitch to create a cup coaster or washcloth. Materials provided. Beginners welcome!

Rancho Mirage Writers Festival Writers Series

RMWF WRITERS SERIES
SPONSORED BY JORDAN SCHNITZER
AT THE RANCHO MIRAGE LIBRARY & OBSERVATORY

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/ranchomiragelibraryobservatory** and available to view at **www.rmwritersfest.org/videos/writers-series**.





Anita McBride • Remember the First Ladies

Tuesday, October 15, 2–3 pm

Anita McBride is an internationally recognized expert on first ladies and the operations of the White House. McBride's expertise on the influence of first ladies on American politics, policy, and global diplomacy was acquired through her two decades of White House service. As Chief of Staff to First Lady Laura Bush, she became one of the longest-tenured women in White House history. She directed the first lady's travels to 67 countries in four years to support U.S. foreign policy objectives in human rights, women's empowerment, global health and education, and human freedom.

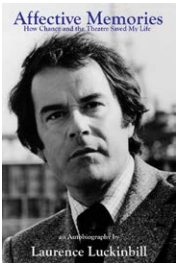
In 2023, she co-authored *Remember the First Ladies: The Legacies of America's History-Making Women*, showcasing the evolving role of the first lady and its historical influence on the American presidency. The book shines a light on the influential women who broke barriers and made a mark on our country and, at times, our world, during their tenures in the White House. The book includes both biographical and thematic chapters. It examines the influence of first ladies on topics such as civil rights, political campaigns, major speeches, and the White House across the span of the nation's history. Profiles of first ladies bring their histories, achievements, and legacies to life. Readers learn about the development and expansion of the role of first lady, from its origins under Martha Washington through its current iteration under Dr. Jill Biden. The book explores how first ladies have been uniquely positioned to influence American society, policy, diplomacy, and life in the White House.

The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *Remember the First Ladies.*

Laurence Luckinbill • Affective Memories: How Chance and the Theater Saved My Life

Tuesday, October 29, 2–3 pm





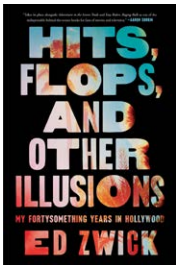
Laurence Luckinbill has written and performed four award-winning solo performances portraying Lyndon Johnson, Clarence Darrow, Theodore Roosevelt and Ernest Hemingway around the world. Over his long career, he has had numerous starring roles in film and TV and on stage. As a journalist, Luckinbill has contributed to *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *American Theatre Magazine*, and *Esquire*. In his memoir, *Affective Memories*, he takes us on an unforgettable journey from poverty, rejection, and sexual abuse to success on Broadway and in Hollywood. He tells the story of his four-decade marriage to actress/singer Lucie Arnaz, his journalism, and his "Great Americans" plays. It's a captivating portrait of the life of every person who ever fought for an impossible dream and finally won it.

Luckinbill will speak with **Joe Mantello**, a Tony-nominated actor for his role in *Angels in America* and Tony-winning director for *Take Me Out* and *Assassins*.

The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *Affective Memories.*







Ed Zwick in Conversation with Dave Karger • Hits, Flops, and Other Illusions: My Fortysomething Years in Hollywood

Tuesday, November 12, 2–3 pm

"I'll be dropping a few names," **Ed Zwick** confesses in the introduction to his book. "Over the years I have worked with self-proclaimed masters-of-the-universe, unheralded geniuses, hacks, sociopaths, savants, and saints." He has encountered these Hollywood types during four decades of directing, producing, and writing projects that have collectively received eighteen Academy Award nominations (seven wins) and sixty-seven Emmy nominations (twenty-two wins). Written mostly with love, sometimes with rue, this memoir "is not just a wonderfully intimate memoir. It's also an indispensable guide to the shark-infested waters of artistic integrity" (Cameron Crowe). **Dave Karger** is a host on Turner Classic Movies. He has also made over 200 live appearances on NBC's *TODAY* as an entertainment commentator.

The first 200 people at this event will receive a FREE copy of *Hits, Flops, and Other Illusions.*

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

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* Lifetime Membership Level is no longer available

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A terrific way to support Library and Observatory programming is to make a general donation to our Foundation, but did you know that individuals and organizations can also choose to sponsor specific programs? Sponsorships help us continue to fund favorite presenters and performers and allow us to bring in exciting new programs as well. Upcoming sponsorship and naming opportunities include, but are not limited to, the programs listed below.

Kids Book Discussion Groups—$2,500

Seed Library—$500

Music Programs and Concerts—$1,000–$5,000

Lecture Programs—$250-$1,500

Sponsorship is a great way to publicly show your support for the power of lifelong learning. To learn more, get in touch with us by calling **760-341-7323** or sending an email to **programming@ranchomiragelibrary.org**.













Did You Know Our Programs Are on YouTube?

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 500 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!

programming@ranchomiragelibrary.org



Calendar • September

Weekly Storytimes
Tiny Tots: Tuesdays at 10 am, Wednesdays at 10 and 11 am
Preschool: Thursdays at 10 am

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Library Closed	2 Library Closed	3 *Into the Woods JR.* Auditions 4–6 pm p. 18	4 Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 20 Family Night: Pirate Night 4–5 pm p. 21 *Into the Woods JR.* Auditions 4–6 pm p. 18 Book Discussion: *The Raven Boys* 4:30–5:30 pm p. 26	5 *Into the Woods JR.* Auditions 4–6 pm p. 18	6	7 Dungeons and Dragons 2–4 pm p. 27
8 Library Closed	9 *Of Miracles and Men* 2–3:45 pm p. 12 Older Kids Book Discussion: *Alebrijes* 4–5 pm p. 23	10	11	12 Anime Club 4–5:30 pm p. 27	13 Book Discussion Group: *Trust* 10–11 am p. 4	14 International Observe the Moon Night 7:30–9 pm p. 16
15 Library Closed	16 *The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters* 2–3:30 pm p. 12	17	18 Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 20	19 Plant-Based Cooking: Soup's On! 2–3 pm p. 8	20 Design It • Make It: Hovercraft 4–5 pm p. 21	21
22 Library Closed	23 *Roger and Me* 2–3:35 pm p. 12	24 What Holocaust? 2–3 pm p. 9	25 LEGO Night: Favorite Animal 4–5 pm p. 21 What Holocaust? 7–8 pm p. 9	26 Craft: Altoids Wallet 4–5:30 pm p. 27	27 Younger Kids Book Discussion: *Time to Shine!* 4–5 pm p. 22	28 Romance Book Club: *The Ornithologist's Field Guide to Love* 10–11 am p. 5
29 Library Closed	30 *Free Solo* 2–3:40 pm p. 12					

September is Library Card Sign-up Month
September is National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month is September 15 to October 15
Constitution Day is September 17
Banned Books Week is September 22 to 28

Theatre · Kids and Families · Teen · Film · Community Showcase · Observatory · Lectures

Calendar • October

Weekly Storytimes
Tiny Tots: Tuesdays at 10 am, Wednesdays at 10 and 11 am
Preschool: Thursdays at 10 am

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 20 Book Discussion: *The Revenant Games* 4:30–5:30 pm p. 26 The Eldermen 7–8 pm p. 10	3 Learning in Retirement Series • The Comedy Boom: 2–3:30 pm p. 9 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17	4 Book Sale 9 am–4 pm p. 4 Bruce Feagle's Guide to Astrophotography 7–8 pm p. 16	5 Book Sale 9 am–4 pm p. 4 STEAM Reads: DIY Solar Oven 1–2:30 pm p. 24 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17
6 Library Closed	7 *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* 1–3:30 pm p. 14	8	9 STEAM Reads: Solar Energy 4–5 pm p. 24 Coachella Valley Classical Voices 7–8 pm p. 10	10 Shredding and E-Waste Collection 8 am–12 pm p. 5 *The Reagans: The Legacy Endures* 2–5 pm p. 13 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17	11 Book Discussion Group: *The Haunting of Hill House* 10–11 am p. 4 Family Night: Mario's Birthday 4–5:30 pm p. 21 SPACEducation 7–8:30 pm p. 17	12 Rescue Rally Pet Adoption & Wellness Fair 9 am–2 pm p. 6 Dungeons and Dragons 2–4 pm p. 27 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17
13 Library Closed	14 *A Face in the Crowd* 1–3:30 pm p. 14 Older Kids Book Discussion: *Scritch Scratch* 4–5 pm p. 23	15 Remember the First Ladies 2–3 pm p. 28	16 *Pavarotti* Documentary Screening with Palm Springs Opera Guild 1–4 pm p. 13 Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 20	17 Plant-Based Cooking: Soup's On! 2–3 pm p. 8 Anime Club 4–5:30 pm p. 27 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17	18 STEAM Reads: Solar Beetles 4–5 pm p. 25 Bruce Feagle's Guide to Astrophotography 7–8 pm p. 16	19 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17
20 Library Closed	21 *The Manchurian Candidate* 1–3:30 pm p. 15	22 STEAM Reads: Exploring Zion National Park's Topography 4–5 pm p. 25	23 LEGO Night: Halloween 4–5 pm p. 21	24 Craft: Pumpkin Craft Box 4–5:30 pm p. 27 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17	25 Younger Kids Book Discussion: *Bear in the Family* 4–5 pm p. 22 Bruce Feagle's Guide to Astrophotography 7–8 pm p. 16	26 Romance Book Club: *Unmarriageable* 10–11 am p. 5 Halloween Spooktacular 1–3 pm p. 22 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17
27 Library Closed	28 *All the President's Men* 1–3:30 pm p. 15	29 Affective Memories 2–3 pm p. 29	30 Día de los Muertos • Kids Activity 5–7 pm p. 23 Día de los Muertos Celebration 5–8 pm p. 7 Jarabe Mexicano 7–8 pm p. 11	31 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17	October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month	

Kids and Families · Teen · Music · Lectures · Observatory · Community Showcase · Film · RMWF Writers Series · Premier Program

Calendar • November

Weekly Storytimes
Tiny Tots: Tuesdays at 10 am, Wednesdays at 10 and 11 am
Preschool: Thursdays at 10 am

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November is Native American Heritage Month					1 Book Sale 9 am–4 pm p. 4 STEAM Reads: Discover Where the Sky Lives 6–7 pm p. 25	2 Book Sale 9 am–4 pm p. 4 OPENight 8–9:30 pm p. 17
3 Library Closed	4 Older Kids Book Discussion: *Wave Riders* 4–5 pm p. 23	5	6 Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 20 Book Discussion: *Birthmarked* 4:30–5:30 pm p. 26	7 STEAM Reads: Digital Photography 4–5 pm p. 25 OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 17	8 Book Discussion Group: *Weyward* 10–11 am p. 4 SPACEducation Session 6–7:30 p. 17	9 Dungeons and Dragons 2–4 pm p. 27 OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 17
10 Library Closed	11 Library Closed	12 Hits, Flops, and Other Illusions 2–3 pm p. 28	13	14 Shredding and E-Waste Collection 8 am–12 pm p. 5 Plant-Based Cooking: Home for the Holidays (Part Two) 2–3 pm p. 8 Anime Club 4–5:30 pm p. 27 OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 17	15 STEAM Reads: Margaret Dilloway Author Visit 4–5 pm p. 25	16 OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 17
17 Library Closed	18	19 STEAM Reads: *Birthday Bling* Book Discussion 4–5 pm p. 25	20 Read to Dogs! 3–4 pm p. 20 LEGO Night: What Are You Thankful For? 4–5 pm p. 21	21 Craft: Beginner Crochet 4–5:30 pm p. 27 OPENight 6–7:30 pm p. 17	22 Younger Kids Book Discussion: *Magnolia Wu Unfolds it All* 4–5 pm p. 22	23 Romance Book Club: *The Bromance Book Club* 10–11 am p. 5 *Into the Woods JR.* 6–7 pm p. 18
24 Library Closed *Into the Woods JR.* 2–3 pm and 6–7 pm p. 18	25	26	27 Library Closes at 5 pm	28 Library Closed	29 Library Closed	30 Library Closed

Community Showcase · Kids and Families · Observatory · Teen · RMWF Writers Series · Premier Program · Lectures · Theatre



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