

THE SANTA CLARA CITY LIBRARY FOUNDATION AND FRIENDS

FALL NEWSLETTER

2025

Books and Beyond Make Summer Adventure 2025 a Success



Summer Adventure 2025 was a blast! The library held more than 20 concerts, plays, and other events as part of their programming - and that is on top of all the library's usual storytimes, book clubs, and more. (If you see your favorite librarian, thank them. They're probably tired!)

The Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends is proud that this is one of the biggest programs we support at the Santa Clara City Library. Summer reading programs are so important for literacy skills that will impact children throughout their lives. Summer Adventure can:

- Stop the "summer slide", the loss of reading skills that happens during the summer academic break.
- Provide opportunities to strengthen phonics and improve spelling, fluency, and comprehension.
- Expand vocabulary. Exposure to new words and phrases via reading contributes to language development.

- Foster a love of reading. Reading books that you like helps you develop a positive association with books and learning. This makes it more likely that you and your children will be lifelong readers and learners.
- Enhance cognitive skills. Reading helps develop focus, concentration, memory, and critical thinking.
- Provide a fun and engaging activity. Summer reading can be incorporated into other summer activities, making our Summer Adventure a fun and rewarding experience.

Over 3,500 people signed up for Summer Adventure this year, with over 315,000 items checked out. That's a lot of people reading more while school is out!

Concerts, like the Wil Roc Project on Juneteenth, along with events such as the Puppet Art Theatre performances and the special storytime with Kiki Pickett and Joelle Anderson, two Bay FC players, drew over 24,000 attendees to the Santa Clara City Library this summer.

Truly, we couldn't make this happen without your support. Thank you for your support of Summer Adventure at the Santa Clara City Library and literacy in Silicon Valley.





A Message from our Executive Director

By JoAnn Davis

Dear Friends,

We have had a jam-packed 2025 so far! The Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends has supported several big events this year.

- Bricks by the Books came to the Santa Clara City Library! This LEGO brick-building extravaganza brought stories to life. Plus, it built community by bringing first-time brick stackers together with master builders.

- K-Pop SC, held in June, was a celebration of the city's diverse and thriving cultural landscape. The Santa Clara City Library highlighted the global music and dance phenomenon. This event welcomed and engaged all members of our community.

- Our Juneteenth Concert featuring the renowned Bay Area band the Will Roc Project was a big hit. We had great music and wonderful weather. Everyone, from city and state representatives to families, had a great time.

- Summer Adventure brought thousands of children, teens, and adults to all library branches. The Santa Clara City Library staff shone with their innovative classes and events through June and July. Look for the article in this newsletter for more details.

In July, we welcomed Kamil Sakici, CEO of Mission City Federal Credit Union, to our Board of Directors. He joins this dedicated group that provides guidance and oversight to our Foundation. Plus, we elected a new Executive Committee in July. President Kathy Betts, Secretary Janet Aresnault, and Treasurer Ken Young are all continuing. Our new Vice President is Barbara Kempeny. I appreciate all they do for both the Foundation and the Library.

Finally, we are excited to celebrate our 25th Anniversary in 2026! We have raised over \$4 million since 2001 in support of the Santa Clara City Library. We look forward to continuing to make our library one of the best.

Please join us on May 16, 2026. We will celebrate this milestone at the Triton Museum of Art with our community of supporters. It promises to be a wonderful evening!

As always, I want to thank everyone--donors, sponsors, volunteers, and more--for their support. We are so grateful. Your support enables us to support the vital programs and activities of the libraries, which continue to enrich our community.

Warm regards,
JoAnn

Monthly Event Schedule

Month	Date	Event
Sept	18	12 PM - 1 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all
Sept	19	9 AM - 10 AM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all
Sept	26	10 AM - 12 PM Book Sale on the Patio at Northside Library
Sept	27	11 AM - 12 PM Author Talk with Aimee Nezhukumatathil Kicking off Santa Clara's Big Read for 2025-2026
Sept	28	1 PM - 3 PM Book Sale on the Patio at Central Park Library
Oct	4	9 AM - 5 PM Parade of Champions
Oct	17	12 PM - 1 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all
Oct	18	9 AM - 10 AM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all
Oct	26	1 PM - 3 PM Book Sale on the Patio at Central Park Library
Nov	1	1 PM - 5 PM Mission Branch Library 70th Anniversary Party
Nov	14	12 PM - 1 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all
Nov	15	9 AM - 10 AM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all
Nov	30	1 PM - 3 PM Book Sale on the Patio at Central Park Library
Dec	2	All Day Giving Tuesday
Dec	14	1 PM - 3 PM Book Sale on the Patio at Central Park Library
Jan	16	12 PM - 1 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all
Jan	17	9 AM - 10 AM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Friends Member only shopping hour 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Monthly Book Sale at Central Park Library Open to all

Bricks, Bots, and Big Ideas: Bricks by the Books Draws 2,000+ to Central Park Library

If you missed it, the Santa Clara City Library hosted Bricks by the Books in early May - a huge day celebrating the world of LEGO at the Central Park Library Over 2,000 people

- showed off their creations,
- explored their creativity,
- got their photos taken with characters, and
- learned more about engineering and building.

People of all ages build with LEGO bricks, which makes bricks a great way to bring our community together.

Bricks can also teach people creativity, flexibility, and problem-solving. Giving students the same set of LEGOs and a goal to build the same thing often results in completely different, and workable, solutions. There can be many different ways to create a structure or a machine that accomplishes a task, and bricks are an easy way to explore design spaces. You can see what works and what doesn't. And building something that works helps build confidence too.



One particular panel at Bricks by the Books was about how to get started with MOCs or "My Own Creations." How do you come up with ideas? Where do you find the bricks? How do you know which ones to get? And how do you transfer what's in your head into something in front of you in the real world? There was a follow-up session on bringing moving parts into your MOC, and a session by and for teens about incorporating robotics.

The Foundation and Friends is delighted to support programs like these at the library. We're thrilled to be supporting creativity, problem-solving, and even team building.



BRICKS BY THE BOOKS BY THE NUMBERS

- 2000+ attendees
- 900 crafts made
- 500 photobooth photos
- 225 raffle tickets sold
- 30+ MOC contest entries
- 14 library staff
- 10 volunteers
- 6 vendors
- 4 panels
- 3 robotics groups
- 1 NBC news segment



THE SANTA CLARA CITY LIBRARY FOUNDATION AND FRIENDS



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Celebrating 25 Years of Community and Literacy:

In 2026, the Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends (SCCLFF) proudly celebrates its 25th anniversary, marking a quarter-century of dedicated service to the Santa Clara City Library. Since its founding in 2001, SCCLFF has played a vital role in supporting the library's classes, resources, and events, enhancing lifelong learning opportunities for all ages. Over the years, the Foundation and Friends has helped ensure that the library continues to thrive as a hub for education, literacy, and community engagement. This includes Summer Adventure, Comic

Con, Bricks by the Books, KPOP SC, renovations at the Mission Branch, the Northside Library Branch, and so much more. This milestone year is a time to reflect on the impact SCCLFF has made and to honor the volunteers, donors, and supporters who have made that work possible.

SCCLFF Marks a Milestone in 2026

To commemorate this special anniversary, SCCLFF is planning many events throughout 2026, inviting the entire community to join in the celebration. The highlight of the year will be an anniversary gala on Saturday, May 16, held at the Triton Museum of Art. The celebratory evening will reflect our journey, as well as a look toward our exciting future. Whether you've supported the Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends for years or are just discovering its impact, 2026 is the perfect time to get involved and help celebrate 25 years of community, connection, and lifelong learning.

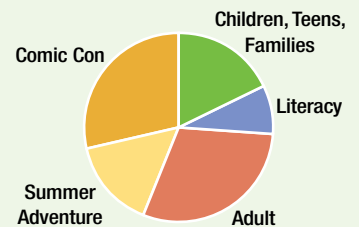


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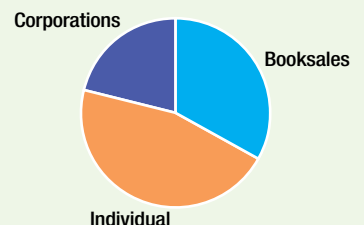


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Where the money goes



Where the \$\$ comes from



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