

# Friends of the Foster City Library Newsletter

## Message from the Board

Dear Friends,

With cooler days and earlier sunsets upon us, our library continues to be a hub of creativity, learning, and community connection. October was filled with lively celebrations—from colorful Diwali programs and the ever-popular Halloween Spooktacular to the Memory Lab Open House, where visitors discovered new ways to preserve cherished memories. Banned Books Week in early October also reminded us of the importance of protecting free access to ideas and stories that inspire reflection and dialogue. With so many opportunities to learn, share, and connect, it's heartening to see the Foster City Library continue to thrive as a space where everyone belongs.

As we enter this season of thanks, we want to express our deep appreciation for everyone who supports the Friends of the Foster City Library. Your generosity makes a lasting impact on our library and our community. In that spirit, we're excited to share a special offer: for any new or existing library card holders who sign up, **we're offering free Friends of the Foster City Library membership for our current fiscal year (which runs through June 30, 2026).**

For those who have already renewed or joined this year—thank you for being a Friend before this promotion began! As a token of our gratitude, your Friends of the Foster City Library membership will be automatically extended through June 30, 2027, at no additional cost. Of course, donations are always welcome and greatly appreciated as they help us continue supporting programs, events, and improvements that make the Foster City Library such a vibrant place for all.

**Please tell at least one neighbor or friend that lives in Foster City to sign up for a free Friends membership so we can send them future newsletters about library programs!** See page 4 for info on how to join.

Best,  
Lou Kim, President, and the Friends of the Foster City Library Board



## Upcoming Foster City Library Closures

- |                 |                                    |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Thanksgiving: | Wed, Nov 26 - early closure at 5pm | Thu, Nov 27 & Fri, Nov 28 - closed |
| • Christmas:    | Wed, Dec 24 - early closure at 5pm | Thu, Dec 25 - closed               |
| • New Year's:   | Wed, Dec 31 - early closure at 5pm | Thu, Jan 1 - closed                |

## Upcoming Library Events

### In-Person Events at Foster City Library

<b>Nov 19</b> (Wed), 5–7pm	<a href="#">Public Speaking Workshop</a> (teens; <b>registration required</b> )
<b>Nov 22</b> (Sat), 10:30–11:30am	<a href="#">Aging With Vitality: Lessons From Functional Medicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine</a> (adults)
<b>Nov 22</b> (Sat), 3–4pm	<a href="#">All Nations Singers &amp; Dancers Pow Wow Presentation</a> (all ages)
<b>Nov 23</b> (Sun), 12–1pm	<a href="#">Native American Drumming and Dance</a> (all ages)
<b>Nov 26</b> (Wed), 10:30–11am	<a href="#">New Parent Meet-Up</a> (children 5 & under with their parent/caregiver)
<b>Dec 3</b> (Wed), 5–7:30pm	<a href="#">Foster City Tree Lighting Ceremony: Music in the Library</a> (all ages)
<b>Dec 4</b> (Thu), 1–3pm	<a href="#">Pen to Paper: Holiday Edition</a> (adults)
<b>Dec 7</b> (Sun), 10:30am–12:30pm	<a href="#">Interactive Forensic Art Talk</a> (adults)
<b>Dec 10</b> (Wed), 10:30–11:30am	<a href="#">Supporting Independence for People with Dementia</a> (adults; <b>registration required</b> )

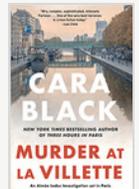
For a full list of events at the library, check out the [Events page](#) on the San Mateo County Library website (<https://smcl.org>).

### Author Talk at Millbrae Library



**Wednesday, Dec 17, 6–7pm  
at MILLBRAE LIBRARY**

[Meet Cara Black,](#)  
[Author of Huguette](#)



San Mateo County Libraries is thrilled to host Bay Area local and New York Times bestselling author Cara Black, as she introduces her new standalone novel, *Huguette*. Join us as Cara discusses her newest novel and shares stunning visuals of Paris. A book signing will follow the presentation and audience Q&A. Limited giveaways of *Huguette* will be available at community libraries before the event, with door copies for the first patrons on December 17.

#### About the Book

After *Libération*, spring 1945, seventeen-year-old Huguette Faure is a survivor. The war has taken everything from her—both her parents and her sense of safety. Now, pregnant and on the lam, she cannot return to her childhood home in Paris. Forced to reinvent herself, she must outrun her father's enemies, who want her dead. Thanks to the help of a kindhearted police officer named Claude Leduc, Huguette narrowly avoids jail time and lands a job assisting a legendary film director. As her role develops from helping him with chores to cooking his books, she sees an opportunity to break free from the ghosts of her past once and for all.

In a big-hearted story of resilience, Cara Black offers a wholly original depiction of postwar France as well as introduces Claude Leduc—the man who decades later inspired his granddaughter, Aimée, to become a private investigator.

#### Meet Cara Black

Cara Black is the author of twenty-one books in the New York Times bestselling Aimée Leduc series as well as the WWII thrillers *Three Hours in Paris* and *Night Flight to Paris*. Her standalone novel *Huguette* comes out December 2, 2025. Cara has won the Médaille de la Ville de Paris and the Médaille d'Or du Rayonnement Culturel and received multiple nominations for the Anthony and Macavity Awards. Her books have been translated into German, Norwegian, Japanese, French, Spanish, Italian and Hebrew.

## Foster City Library Youth Committee

We proudly hosted our **Off the Grid fundraiser** on September 10. Held at Leo J. Ryan Park from 5–9pm, attendees enjoyed live music, food trucks, and even a free book from the library-sponsored Book Bike giveaway! The Youth Committee organized and hosted activities such as face painting, temporary tattoos, and button making, serving a total of 57 participants. This event was successful in raising \$597 for the library, bringing delight to many children and parents, and strengthening our community bond.

On November 19 from 5–7pm, the Youth Committee will sponsor a **Public Speaking Workshop** showing middle and high school students how to write and give a speech. Registration info on page 2.



### Apply to the Youth Committee by December 20!

Interested in community service activities connected to the Foster City Library? If so, go to <https://bit.ly/3JotrVh> and submit an application by **Saturday, December 20**. Students must be in grades 9–11 and live in Foster City.

## Membership & Donations

**Many thanks** to these new and renewing members and donors, as of Oct 2025!

Elizabeth Avakian	Richard Divine	Charlie & Linda Minkey Maguire	Roger & Victoria Tapper
Jo Ann & Edward Beecher	Walter & Alicia Eades, M.D.	Janet McAuley	Gerry & Krista Terstiege
Flavia Borellini	Eileen Greathouse	Carol McMahan	Ann Terwilliger
Jennie Brown	Susan Hall	Murli & Mona Melwani	May Tong
Phyllis & Jeff Brown	Elizabeth Haywood	Robert Nelson	Elizabeth Tough
Stephen & Maureen Buchner	Sanford & Lois Heisler	Dan & Lisa O'Brien and Family	Mary True
Joan & Donald Carlson	Steve Hibshman	Patricia Obuchowski	Wendy Trytko
Susan Chang	Melinda Henning & Roger Jacobs	Edward, Yuko, Kaz & Kei Onuma	Sherry Tsang
Winsie Cheng	June Jordan	Jadine & Norman Owyang	Jeanette Vasherese
Lester & Mary Lau Chin	Helen Kennedy	Shelley & Thomas Pavela	Peggy Williams
Kyn Dellinger & Dr. Nilda Chong	Barbara Ann Kilpatrick	Stephen & Andrea Pearlman	Cora Wong
Robert Christensen	Lou & James Kim	Peter Pershing	Ei-Mang Wu
Paul & Angelina Chui	Marsha Kliewer	Tom & Elissa Rogers	Rick Wykoff
Marcia Cohn-Lyle	Anita Kunst	Barbara & Andrew Rosenberg	Wayne & Anna Yamaguchi
Gretta Csatho	Marisa Kwan	Beverly Saylor	Ella Yoon
Margaret Culver	Grace Kwon	Patricia Schall	Barbara Young
Bettie J. Davis	Jeanie Kwong	Prem Sehgal	Vincent Yuen
Robert & Eileen Davis	William M. Lee	Julian Tai	
Monika DeMartini	Susan Lindstrom		

*If there is an error, please email [foclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:fofclibrary@gmail.com).*

### FoFCL Officers and Board Members

Lou Kim, President  
 Mary Lou Griffin, Vice President  
 Jeanette Vasherese, Treasurer  
 May Tong, Secretary and Marketing/Communications  
 Stephanie Saba, Representative Ex Officio  
 Jeanie Kwong, Bookshop Liaison & Youth Committee Advisor  
 Marisa Kwan, Membership  
 Anu Thirunarayanan, Fundraising  
 Ei-Mang Wu, Newsletter  
 Nia Goulishev, Youth Committee Board Representative  
 Raneem Motalib, Youth Committee Board Representative

### Foster City Library Staff

Stephanie Saba, Library Branch Manager  
 Amy Selmi, Senior Librarian  
 Michelle Wong, Community Librarian  
 Jenna Varden, Teen Services Librarian  
 Anjali Bhat, Youth Services Librarian  
 Evie Diaz, Community Technology Specialist  
 Kate Drabek, Senior Library Assistant  
 Dek Samson, Library Assistant  
 Neuf Narisaranukul, Library Assistant  
 Polina Rebenok, Library Assistant  
 Sneha Sunder, Library Assistant  
 Polina Rebenok, Library Assistant





## COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS FORM

A LASTING GIFT WITH A LASTING IMPACT FOR BOTH THE RECIPIENT AND THE FOSTER CITY LIBRARY!

### Dear Supporter of the Foster City Library,

Thank you for your generosity in purchasing a commemorative gift at the library! We have several options that will make a lasting impression on your loved ones. Whether purchasing a book spine, an engraved tile, or an engraved plaque, your gift will truly honor friends and family, bringing a sense of joy and pride every time they visit the library. All proceeds go directly to supporting Foster City Library programs, services and resources.

With gratitude,  
Friends of Foster City Library Board

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

### GIFT LEVEL:

For more details on these commemorative gifts & to add your desired inscription, review the back of this flyer/form.

- Book Spine, 1 line (\$225)**
- Engraved Brick, Ground (\$250)**
- Engraved Brick, Arcade (\$300)**
- Book Spine, 2 lines (\$300)**
- Engraved Tile, 6"x 12" (\$450)**
- Engraved Tile, 12"x 12" (\$600)**
- Engraved Foyer Plaque (\$1,000+)**

**Bricks & Tiles make a wonderful gift for the holidays!** Orders will be engraved in March/April 2026, but we will send a postcard to a recipient of your choice to receive in time for the holidays! Indicate recipient's name and address here:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

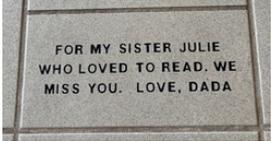
\_\_\_\_\_

YOU MAY SUBMIT PAYMENT VIA CASH, CHECK (PAYABLE TO: FRIENDS OF THE FOSTER CITY LIBRARY), OR ONLINE. GIVE THIS COMPLETED FORM (& PAYMENT) TO ANY LIBRARY STAFF.

Scan the QR code (or go to [omella.com/76pu6](https://omella.com/76pu6)) to complete this form online and for credit/debit payment, Apple Pay or Google Pay



*The Friends of the Foster City Library is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Contributions are tax deductible.*

Amount	Gift	Description
\$225 (1 line) \$300 (2 lines)	<b>Book Spine</b> 1 line or 2 lines	A colorful ceramic tile created to resemble the spine of a book 
\$250 (Ground) \$300 (Arcade)	<b>Brick</b> 3 1/2" x 11" 2 lines	Chosen inscription on one of the building's signature bricks along the pathways and pillars leading to the library entrance 
\$450 (6" x 12") \$600 (12" x 12")	<b>Tile</b> 6" x 12" (3 lines) 12" x 12" (4 lines)	Engraving on one of the classic stone tiles protected under the arcade along the front of the library 
\$1,000+	<b>Permanent Plaque Recognition</b>	Chosen inscription to the permanent wall plaque inside the library foyer 

**INSCRIPTION:**

Use the boxes below for your desired inscription, following the guidelines for how many lines are permitted based on the gift level. Each line is up to 20 characters (one character per box).


**Note:** Commemorative gift engravings will be filled annually in September or March, as long as at least 6 orders total are submitted. All orders will be filled within one year or ordering regardless of the 6 order minimum.

**SUBMIT THIS COMPLETED FORM AND PAYMENT TO ANY LIBRARY STAFF OR MAIL TO:  
FRIENDS OF FOSTER CITY LIBRARY  
1000 EAST HILLSDALE BLVD  
FOSTER CITY, CA 94404  
C/O BRICKS & TILES PROGRAM**