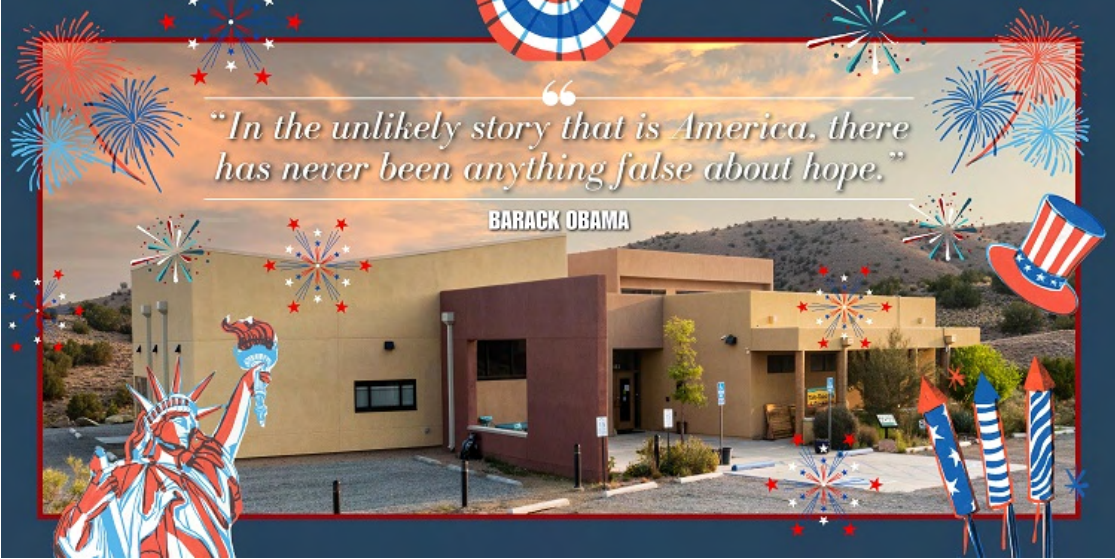


# PLACITAS *Community* LIBRARY



## NEWSLETTER JULY/AUG 2024



### **PLACITAS COMMUNITY LIBRARY HOURS**

**SUN: 1 - 4**  
**TUES: 10 - 7**  
**WED/THURS/SAT: 10 - 5**

PLACITAS Community LIBRARY

# THE Patron SURVEY IS OUT NOW!

*We want to hear your voice!*

You're invited to please complete a survey to help shape the future of your Placitas Community Library. Every response matters!

**SURVEY IS OPEN JUNE 23 - JULY 31**

Questions? Email: [responses@placitaslibrary.com](mailto:responses@placitaslibrary.com)

Scan the QR code



or

Click the SURVEY link at [www.placitaslibrary.com](http://www.placitaslibrary.com)



or

Paper surveys at the library!



**BONUS:** Complete a survey and be entered for a chance to WIN a gift card! Thank you to these awesome local businesses!



453 hwy 165 • [www.placitaslibrary.com](http://www.placitaslibrary.com) • 505.867.3355

## ADULT PROGRAMS

- **AUG 3 (6:30 PM):** Placitas Community Library (PCL) Benefit Concert
- **AUG 10 (2 PM):** New York Times Bestselling Author Hampton Sides Discusses Latest Book, "The Wide Wide Sea"
- **AUG 24 (2 PM):** 2024 Placitas Adult Community Education (PACE) – What's Coming Up This Fall
- **SEPT 28 (1 PM):** Giving Makes Us Happy – Let's Talk About Sharing Wealth Without Worries
- **OCT 5 (1 PM):** Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) – Charitable Giving as a Tax Strategy

## ART RECEPTIONS & EXHIBITS

- **Through JULY 18:** Exhibit: Our America – A Tapestry of Cultural Diversity
- **AUG 2 (5–6:30 PM):** Artists' Reception: Sacred Spaces – Honoring Chacoan Culture (exhibit will be displayed July 20–Aug 29)

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

### JULY:

Your Summer Reading Program and Reading Challenge, "Adventure Begins at Your Library," continue with:

- **JULY 13 (1 PM):** A fun-filled Taylor Swift beading party, where kids will make several friendship bracelets while listening to Taylor's music in the background. An assortment of colorful beads will be provided. Our creative and knowledgeable instructors will guide you through the entire process, from selecting the beads to making your very own bracelets!
- **JULY 20 (1 PM):** Glass art with Karen Shatar. Kids will paint a design of their own choosing on glass. Please bring a picture to trace onto the 5"x5" piece of glass, or you can use a picture provided by us. Coloring books would be a good source.
- **JULY 27 (1 PM):** Explora Family Science Event. Reading prizes and gift bags will be given out. And there will be cake!

### AUGUST:

- **TUES, AUG 13 (10 AM):** Pre-K Story Hour with stories, activities, and refreshments

## RECURRING EVENTS

- **Social Justice Discussion Group** (3rd Tues of each month at 1 PM): Meet to discuss issues of social justice and how we can make a difference in the world today!
- **La Parranda: Club de Español** (Every Wed at 10 AM): Use and learn español with Diane Herrera Shepard and other guests. Open to anyone, especially beginners. No registration or regular attendance required!
- **Drumming Circle** (1st Sun of each month at 4 PM): Bring your own drum or use one of the many we have.



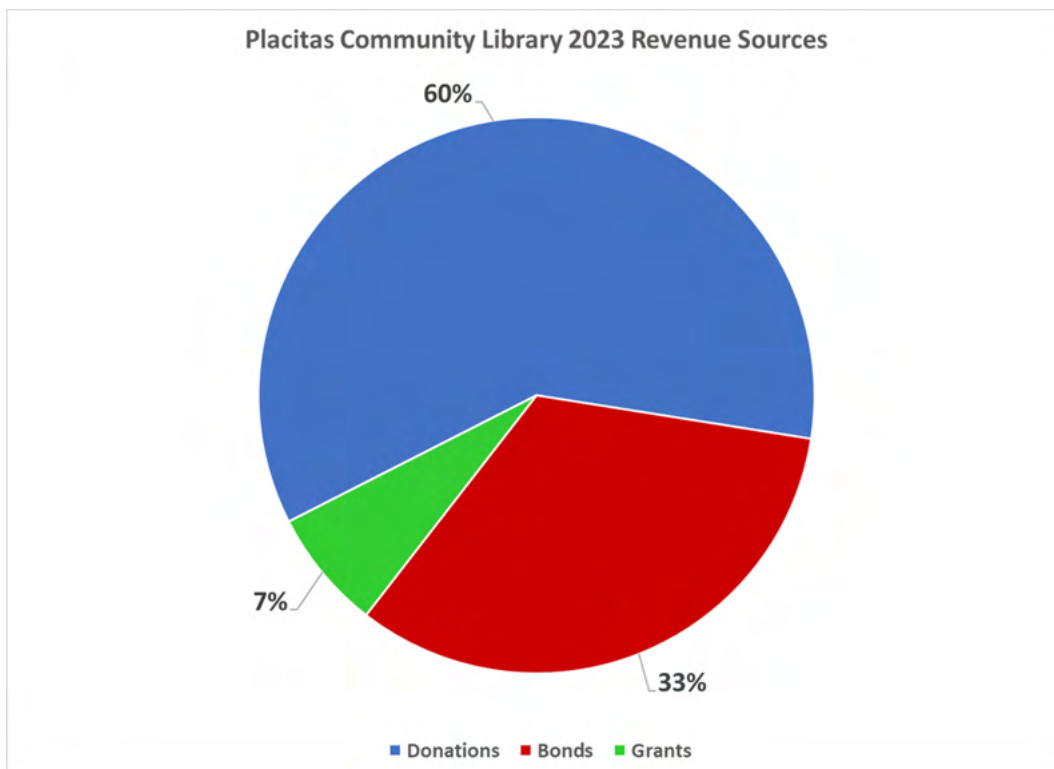
Has anyone ever asked you to describe our library or asked you why our library is so special? Just in case you ever get these questions, we have come up with an elevator speech about our incredible library.

*PCL is a nonprofit organization with only two part-time employees and approximately 100 volunteers. We are primarily funded from generous individual donors. Since Placitas is not a city, we receive no municipal funds.*

Here are some details about our funding. If you are at all familiar with PCL, you know we are not your typical public library. As stated in the elevator speech, we are not a municipal library. That means we do not receive any money from property taxes or sales taxes, or any of the ways most public libraries receive their funding.

Last year, 60% of our income came from the generosity of the community. We receive this money in a variety of ways: donations, fundraisers, book sales, art sales, etc. Every time you buy a book in our lobby, a piece of art from one of our art exhibits, or cookies from one of our bake sales, you are benefiting the library.

I'm sure you're wondering where the other 40% comes from. Each year, the state legislature appropriates funds (the amount varies from year to year) to the New Mexico State Library in the form of state grants-in-aid. The appropriation is split equally among all eligible public libraries. For 2023, this amount was about 7% of our income. The other 33% came from general obligation (GO) bonds issued by Sandoval County. These GO bonds are distributed to 17 public libraries in Sandoval County. Like the state grants-in-aid, the bond amount varies from year to year.



We cannot thank the community enough for your financial support. Each individual dollar donated gives us the power to be the hub of our community and creates the well-crafted gem we all have made together. Your donations make a difference and are the lifeblood of PCL. We would not be able to keep the doors open without you!

### **Strategic Planning Update**

The Strategic Planning Committee continues work on eliciting feedback from you, our community. The committee has been busy creating, testing, and producing the Patron Survey, arranging and conducting focus groups, doing one-on-one interviews from across the community, and reviewing all internal operating documents and procedures for a clear look at the current state of the library and the perceived needs of the community.

So far, Chris Montoya, our facilitator has conducted 25 one-on-one interviews with a sampling of community members, volunteers, and organizational partners, and the committee has held five focus groups that include marginalized local communities, parent and youth educational needs, and library volunteers. We've been busy!

One clear message that keeps emerging from engaging during the feedback process is the passion and appreciation our Placitas community has for the library as a central community resource. One person referenced the library as the 'gem' in the crown of Placitas.

Our Patron Survey asking for your input about PCL went live on June 23. Taking this 12-question survey also gives respondents the opportunity to win one of a few donated gift cards for completing the survey. These gift cards were proudly donated by a few local businesses and the library for Strategic Planning. Entering an email address on the survey will enter you in a chance to win a gift card! Winners will be announced on the new website after all entries have been received.

To take the survey, please see the flyer at the beginning of the newsletter for a link to the survey or click [here](#).

Paper copies of the survey are available at the PCL Help Desk. All questions about the Patron Survey can be emailed to: [responses@placitaslibrary.com](mailto:responses@placitaslibrary.com).

We will wrap up our data gathering by the end of July and will begin work on the Strategic Plan document after we've compiled all feedback and analyzed the feedback and data. The Plan will guide the library operations and activities to grow and fortify the library for the next three years.

The Plan will first go to the Board for their approval and will then be disseminated to the community. We'll keep you informed as we move this along and plan on sharing the results after we've collected all the data from the Patron Survey. We hope to hear your voice in the survey!

*Library*  
**BOARD  
OF  
DIRECTORS**

*Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday  
of each month at 6:00 PM in the  
Gracie Lee Community Room. The  
public is invited and welcome to  
attend. Agendas are posted [here](#)  
and at the library.*

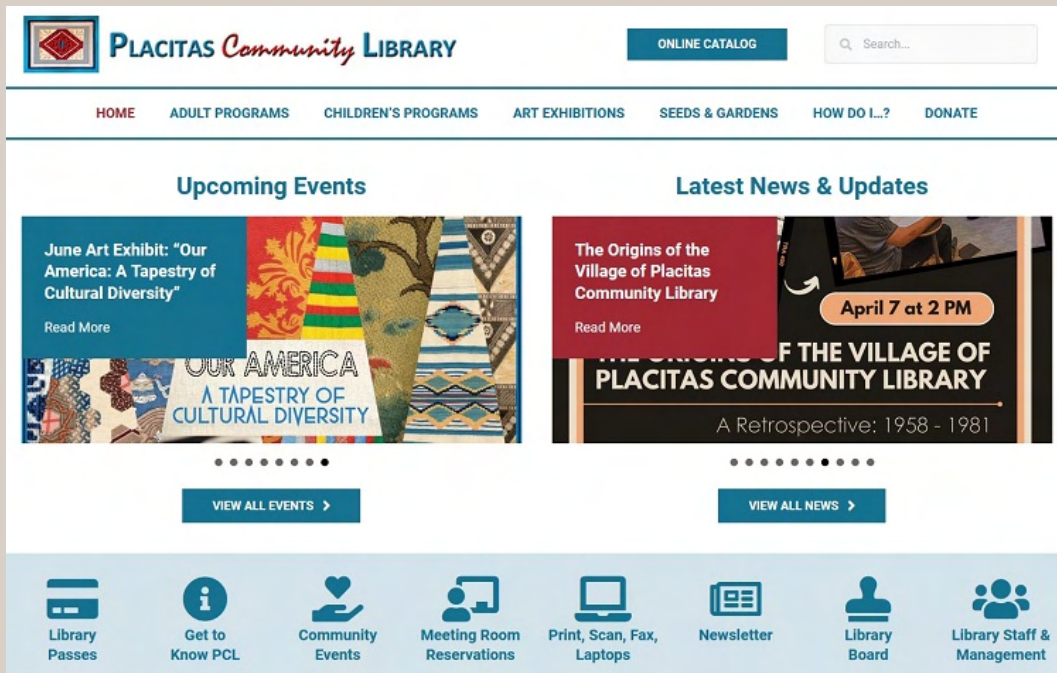
**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:  
THURS, JULY 18, 6:00 PM  
THURS, AUG 15, 6:00 PM**



### PCL Has a New Website!

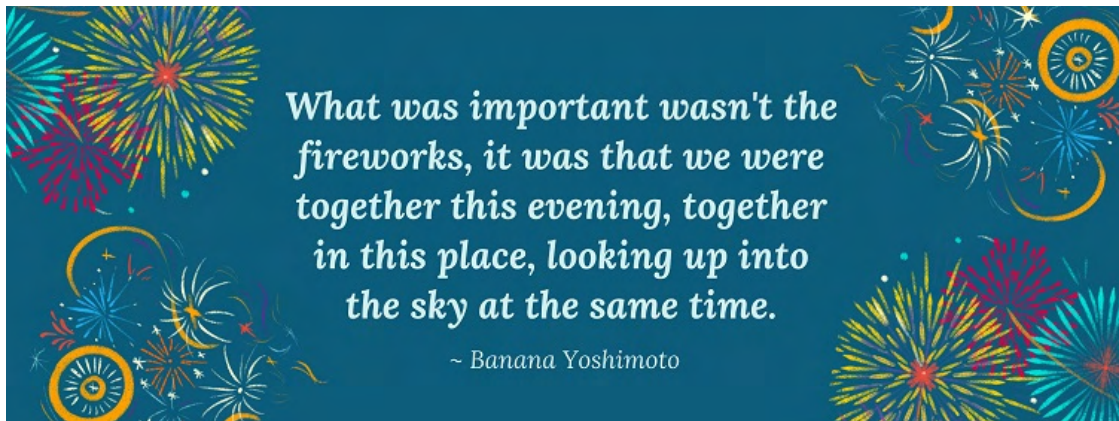
We are so excited to announce the launch of our new website. This new website has so many amazing features that I wanted to let you know about just a few of them:

- We have added a section called **How Do I?** to answer the most frequently asked questions we receive, ranging from how to request a new item to locating our newsletters and many more.
- We have added many more ways to **ask questions** and to be able to **contact us**.
- We have removed the drop-downs and made them links to new pages.
- We have added a **Home** button so you can always return from any page back to the home page very easily.



Be sure to checkout our new [website](#) for more amazing new features.

All the best,  
*Lynne*



Wondering what to do with all of those already-read books and old DVDs stacking up on tables and bookshelves throughout your house? Why not gather them up and donate them to PCL where they can enhance the experience of visitors as well as play a vital role in raising money for the library. The dedicated members of the Donated Books team will sort your castoffs and turn them into treasure for library operations.

Books and DVDs that fit the library's current needs are added to the collection, enriching the community's selection of materials. Items that are not selected for the collection are then evaluated to see if they can be listed and sold in our Amazon store. The Donated Books sorting team relegates those that are badly worn, soiled, or heavily marked to recycling boxes. The rest are passed to the next group of volunteers who decide which ones will be retained for sale in the lobby and which will be delivered to the Department of Corrections, Watermelon Ranch, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and other service organizations, ensuring that each donation will benefit as many people as possible.

The library emphasizes the importance of the condition of donated items, preferring materials that are clean and in good shape. The Donated Books staff of twelve volunteers led by William Otterbein processes hundreds of items each month – sorting, selling, and making weekly runs to the county recycling center. Donations are accepted during the library's open hours, and donors can request a receipt for tax purposes. The library particularly values recent publications, cookbooks, art books, recent college textbooks, and materials related to Southwest history. We are unable to accept magazines, encyclopedias, dictionaries, CDs, video and audio cassettes, Bibles, Reader's Digest Condensed, Time Life, and other series. Heavy boxes are difficult for volunteers to manipulate, so please consider the size and weight of the boxes when you donate.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Donated Books Team or would like more information, please contact Diane Gonano, our Volunteer Coordinator at [coordinator@placitaslibrary.com](mailto:coordinator@placitaslibrary.com).

Big thanks to our Donated Books Team: Bill, Audrey, Debbie, Susan, Linda, Amy, Sherri, Ken, Thomas, Diane, Savannah, and Alan. Your volunteer time, energy, and talent is very much appreciated.

The PCL Appreciation Committee



**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**DISCUSSION GROUP**

Meet to discuss issues of social justice and how we can make a difference in the world today!

Please contact Anne at [annegrey3@gmail.com](mailto:annegrey3@gmail.com) for more information

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1 PM in the Collin Meeting Room

Artwork created by philsuperstar at www.freepik.com



**PLACITAS COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

**BENEFIT CONCERT**

*A concert in support of our superb library. Listen to three Placitas singer-songwriters as they perform original compositions, each in their unique style.*

**AUGUST 3 | 6:30 PM**



**James Bell** excels in writing vignettes that tell a story or define a moment in time or place. To this end, he has spent fifty plus years refining his skills. His guitar work ranges from raging rock to subtle and sweet acoustic. His songs can be hard hitting or ethereal, and his voice will surprise and amaze you. He hopes as listeners you enjoy his songs and find some pleasure and truth in them.

**Dennis Bumgarner** writes songs primarily influenced by roots and Americana music, as well as the blues. Some of his songs have received airplay on local radio. His work as a therapist has provided a rich lode of human experience from which to draw inspiration for his songwriting. His style is straight-forward and his lyrics colorful and well-crafted. His performances are highly entertaining and audiences are always delighted. He has been part of a trio of songwriters for several years and finds great enjoyment in the collaborative process.

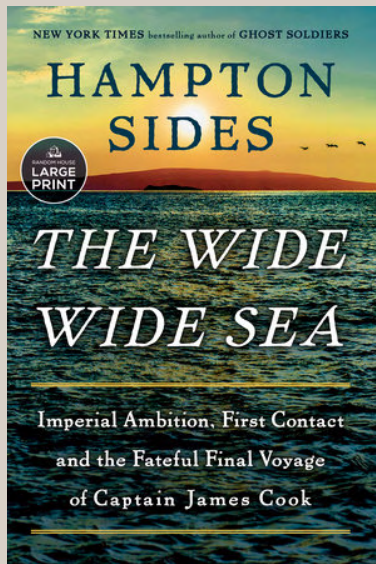
**Anna Rudolph** began writing, playing music, and singing in 2012. In 2013, she was nominated for her first of fifteen nominations for original songs and two wins for New Mexico Music Awards (2017 and 2022). She has released six original CDs and several singles. Although she crosses many genres, she writes mostly Americana and the blues. She has played in venues across New Mexico including the El Morro Theater in Gallup and the New Mexico State Fair. She has had performance radio interviews with 99.9 Placitas Radio and KTRC/Radio Santa Fe on the Art Fusion program, and her music is played on local radio, KUNM, and several streaming/internet music sites. She has also taught her own songwriting course at PCL and now hosts a musical radio show on local Placitas radio, KUPR. Join us to experience her original sultry, intimate, and extraordinary style!



Join us on August 3 from 6:30–9:00 PM.

Refreshments will be available.

A \$20.00 donation is requested.



From *New York Times* bestselling author Hampton Sides, comes an epic account of the most momentous voyage of the Age of Exploration, which culminated in Captain James Cook's death in Hawaii, and left a complex and controversial legacy still debated to this day.

PCL is excited to announce that on **August 10**, Hampton Sides will share his new work, *The Wide Wide Sea*. This work of narrative non-fiction is at once a ferociously-paced story of adventure on the high seas and a searching examination of the complexities and consequences of the Age of Exploration.

On July 12th, 1776, Captain James Cook, already lionized as the greatest explorer in British history, set off on his third voyage in his ship the *HMS Resolution*. Two-and-a-half years later, on a beach on the island of Hawaii, Cook was killed in a conflict with native Hawaiians. How did Cook, who was unique among captains

for his respect for Indigenous peoples and cultures, come to that fatal moment?

Hampton Sides' bravura account of Cook's last journey both wrestles with Cook's legacy and provides a thrilling narrative of the titanic efforts and continual danger that characterized exploration in the 1700s. Cook was renowned for his peerless seamanship, his humane leadership, and his dedication to science – the famed naturalist Joseph Banks accompanied him on his first voyage, and Cook has been called one of the most important figures of the Age of Enlightenment. He was also deeply interested in the native people he encountered. In fact, his stated mission was to return a Tahitian man, Mai, who had become the toast of London, to his home islands. On previous expeditions, Cook mapped huge swaths of the Pacific, including the east coast of Australia, and initiated first European contact with numerous peoples. He treated his crew well, and endeavored to learn about the societies he encountered with curiosity and without judgment.

Hampton Sides is best-known for his gripping non-fiction adventure stories set in war or depicting epic expeditions of exploration. He is the author of the bestselling narrative histories *Ghost Soldiers*, *Blood and Thunder*, *Hellhound on His Trail*, *In the Kingdom of Ice*, and *On Desperate Ground*. **Please join us to welcome him to Placitas on Saturday, August 10 at 2 PM at PCL.**

**¡BIENVENIDOS!**  
*PCL is excited to welcome you to our Spanish club:*

**LA PARRANDA**  
*Club de Español*

Open to anyone, especially beginners. No registration or regular attendance required. Come when you choose to improve or learn Spanish skills and have FUN!

**Every Wednesday  
 10 AM - Noon**

## PLACITAS ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION (PACE)



*What's Coming Up This Fall*

**AUGUST 24 | 2 PM**



Placitas Adult Community Education (PACE) is a local non-profit membership organization. It's for people like you who have natural curiosity and want to learn new things, who want to "keep their brains in the game." Sound like you? **Join us at PCL on August 24 at 2 PM.** The new chair of PACE, Jud Fink, will share with us the upcoming classes offered this Fall. There is a good chance one or more of the instructors will drop by as well.

PACE classes are led by speakers/experts/professionals who enjoy an informal "give and take" atmosphere. They generously teach on a volunteer basis.

Over the past eight years, PACE has offered courses on science, water rights and where our water comes from, literature, jazz and classical music, life planning in our senior years, and many other topics. One of our most popular courses has been wine tasting. Among the courses planned or under discussion for the coming year are classes in Native American art, history and culture of the New Mexico Pueblos, classical music, jazz, literature, "Heaven and Earth" (comparing the geology of Earth and other bodies in the Solar System), wine tasting, and gardening in Placitas. A complete schedule will be available in August. Join us for an overview of the Fall courses and a sneak peek at the Spring semester on August 24 at 2 PM. We hope to have several of our instructors on hand to chat about their course plans.

Each course meets for 2 hours once a week, anywhere from 3 to 8 weeks; we like to try to have about 4 - 6 classes each semester. Classes are held at PCL and are scheduled so they don't conflict with each other. They're offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, either 10 AM-noon or 1-3 PM.

In the Fall, classes are staggered throughout mid-September to mid-December, and in the Spring from early February to about the beginning of May.

A \$55 Semester Membership gives you the option of attending any or all the classes you want in one semester. The Annual Membership is discounted to \$100 if you'd like to attend all the courses you want for two semesters, an entire year. For any semesters in which you'd just like to take one course, that's

\$30. (You can add \$70 to get the \$100 deal for a full year if you'd like.) These funds are used to support PCL and other community organizations and to cover PACE's minimal expenses.

Would you like to teach a course? We are open to suggestions if you are thinking of a course you would like to see offered or if you know of someone who you think would do a great job teaching a course.

For more information on PACE or to register for the Fall semester, please visit our [website](#). We look forward to seeing you at PCL on August 24 at 2 PM.

A promotional graphic for a Drumming Circle. The background is a light beige color with various musical symbols scattered throughout, including treble and bass clefs, musical notes, and a drum. On the left, the words "DRUMMING CIRCLE" are written vertically in a large, bold, dark red font. In the center, there is a detailed illustration of a red and yellow striped drum with two drumsticks. On the right, a dark red speech bubble contains the text "JOIN US!" in white. Below this, the text "FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 4 PM" is written in a bold, dark red font. Underneath that, it says "Bring your own drum or use one of the many we have!" in a smaller, dark red font. At the bottom right, there is a small, italicized note: "\*Children are welcomed but parents should be aware this is an adult, meditation-like experience".

**DRUMMING  
CIRCLE**

**JOIN US!**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF  
EACH MONTH AT 4 PM**

**Bring your own drum or use  
one of the many we have!**

*\*Children are welcomed but parents should be  
aware this is an adult, meditation-like experience*

**SAVE THE DATES!**

**SEPT 28 | 1-3 PM**  
 Giving Makes Us Happy...Let's Talk About Sharing Wealth Without Worries

**OCT 5 | 1-3 PM**  
 Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs): Charitable Giving as a Tax Strategy

**Sept 28 (1-3 PM): Giving Makes Us Happy...Let's Talk About Sharing Wealth Without Worries**

*Presented by Kelley and Ric Tredwin of Altalune Wealth Advisors*

Knowing how, when, and how much you can really afford to give can be worrisome. Join us for a conversational workshop to talk about income and tax issues that worry us as we age. We will address issues like:

- Living gifts
- Charitable giving opportunities
- Cost basis
- Distribution strategies
- Estate planning
- Portfolio analysis for unexpected expenses

**Oct 5 (1-3 PM): Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs): Charitable Giving as a Tax Strategy**

*Presented by Kelley and Ric Tredwin of Altalune Wealth Advisors*

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) can be a great way to donate to a charity and reduce your tax burden at the same time. QCDs are taken from your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) which is the distribution you are required to take from your Traditional IRA every year after your turn 72. As part of your financial planning, a QCD could be beneficial to you as well as to community organizations you are donating. There are some complicated caveats that are worth considering. Join us to learn more.



**ABQ Backyard Refuge Program**

The PCL Gardens/Landscape are now part of the [ABQ Backyard Refuge Program](#) (ABQBRP)! Review of our application and photos elicited the following positive response by the application reviewer: "...it looks like you have great Connecting Habitat at the library!"

As part of being certified by ABQBRP, Bernalillo County offers a free rain barrel (even if you're located outside of Bernalillo County), giving us another way to catch and use valuable rainwater in our gardens.

Bernalillo County, along with partners Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District and Low Impact Development in Arid Environments, have released the new [Passive Rainwater Harvesting Field Guide](#). This Guide is available for download on the County's webpage along with their [passive rainwater harvesting training videos](#).



### June 6 Landscape Committee Work Day

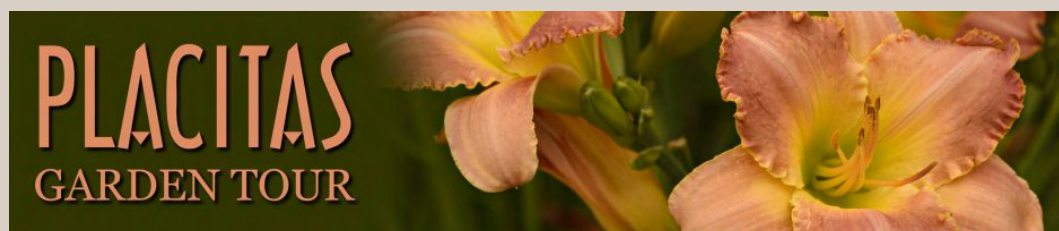
Despite the “downright toasty” working conditions, many thanks go to Wayne G., Silvia M., Sue O., Cheryl W., and Stephanie W. for all their efforts! We weeded the Flagpole and West End Gardens, worked on placing rock edging around the Flagpole Garden, did a bit of garden clean-up and pruning, buried a new drip line to the Desert Willows on the southeast corner of the main parking lot, and planted some new perennials throughout the gardens for varied interest and color. A lot of work was accomplished on a very warm morning!

In preparation for being one of the featured gardens on the upcoming Placitas Garden Tour on September 8, the Landscape Committee is setting a number of additional Work Days between now and the beginning of September. These Work Days will run from 8 – 10 AM (weather permitting), and are as follows:

- Thursday, July 11
- Thursday, August 1
- Thursday, August 22
- Thursday, August 29

So, please put them on your calendar, and come out to help ensure that the PCL gardens look their best for the Placitas Garden Tour!

Happy Gardening!



### Plants in Placitas

The PCL Garden will once again be part of the 2024 Annual Placitas Garden Tour, which takes place on **Sunday, September 8, 2024, from 9 AM to 4 PM**. The PCL Garden was developed by volunteers with financial aid from grants. Over the years, it has grown and includes gardens that surround the entire library, the south end of the parking lot, and a labyrinth. The gardens are maintained by the PCL Landscape and Building Maintenance Committee and a team of library volunteers in cooperation with Sandoval County Master Gardeners.

As part of the Garden Tour, participants will be able to explore the many wonderful gardens that surround the library, and meet with the onsite Master Gardeners who can answer questions about the

plants in the library's gardens or what it takes to develop and grow a garden in the high desert of Placitas.

With this year's theme being "Plants in Placitas," as part of the library's activities that day, there will be seed ball making for children with parent supervision and involvement, and access to PCL's seed bank, where there are over 100 varieties of seeds to either start or supplement your garden.

In addition to viewing the gardens and making seed balls, there is a labyrinth to wander through and contemplate your life journey, and a water feature where you can sit and listen to birds chirp as the water trickles and gurgles, providing a peaceful, calming feeling.

Steve McKibbin, a local Placitas artist, will be onsite creating Southwest contemporary gourd art throughout the day. You are welcome to watch him express his artwork at the library. While watching Steve create his art will no doubt be captivating, artwork from all of the artists at the six other gardens on the tour this year will be on display for sale in the Gracie Lee Community Room.

While there is plenty to do at the PCL Garden, please consider volunteering to help with this year's Garden Tour. The library needs volunteers to work as a Garden Greeter, Garden Docent, or Traffic Manager. There are two shifts to choose from, morning and/or afternoon. Shifts run from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM, and 12 to 4 PM. If you volunteer, you are entitled to visit the other gardens when you are not working. There is a signup sheet at the Help Desk for volunteers to work in our garden. If you are interested in working a different garden, please contact Peggy Butzer at (952) 381-7529 or [peg.butzer@gmail.com](mailto:peg.butzer@gmail.com).

## How to Make a Simple Seed Ball



Want to help spread native plants in the barren surrounding Buffalo Tract lands north of Placitas? Would you like to know how to make native grass and wildflower seed balls?



**HOW SEED BALLS WORK:** Compost and clay protects the seeds from drying out, washing away, or being eaten by birds. As the weather breaks down the seed ball, the compost and clay will help the seed to root and grow.

Come to the library on September 8 for the Placitas Garden Tour art show, artist demonstration, Master Gardeners Table, and a hands-on parent supervised seed ball making session.

We will be making seed balls of native grasses and a few wildflowers at 10 stations at 10 AM, 12 PM, and 2 PM on the library portal.

All materials will be provided, and under the supervision of a Pathways Wildlife Corridors leader, you will make about a dozen seed balls, 2 of which you may take home to dry and distribute in your own yard. What do you think the native plants will look like growing from your seed balls? Come and make some and you will see.

We will plan a couple of outings in the Fall to go out and distribute the seed balls you make. Seed ball makers will be invited to come along and help. How might animals or insects use these native plants?

We can't wait to see the efforts of our work this Spring!

It is a wet and sticky job, so dress appropriately. Cleanup buckets and towels will be on hand.



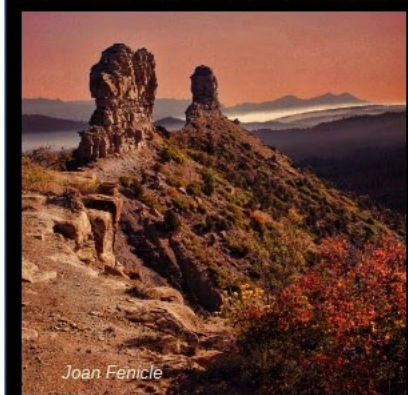
**"Our America: A Tapestry of Cultural Diversity" on Display Through July 18**

This exhibit is a tapestry of cultural diversity bound together by the unique weft and warp of stories and experiences of all people representing various backgrounds and origins of the American landscape. Through the lens of art, we explore and celebrate the richness and complexity of our collective identity as Americans. Artists were invited to reflect and draw inspiration from their personal connections with family legacies, ancestral roots, and cultural traditions, and how those are woven into the canvas of "Our America."

Presenting Artists: Rebecca Cohen, Leslie Pino Durant, Pierrette Gorman, Colleen Z. Gregoire, Linda Heath, Brianna Hughes, Karen Jones Meadows, MarkLavon Maestas, Bobbye Middendorf, Mike and Pam Neas, Ray Ortiz, Logan Ortwerth, Edwin Sanchez, Phillip Timper, Pam Troutman, Ming-Ching, Wang, Miriam Nelson



Clockwise from top left: *Eavesdropping* by Phillip Timper, *Peaceful Mama* by Leslie Pino Durant, *The Lady* by Logan Orwerth, and *Bluma* by Rebecca Cohen





**"Sacred Places: Honoring Chacoan Culture" on Display July 20 through August 29**

Las Placitas Association sponsored an artists' adventure in Chaco Canyon in late 2023. PCL's Art Committee is partnering with Las Placitas Association to present the exhibition "Sacred Places: Honoring Chacoan Culture." This exhibition will feature works inspired by that trip, and is open to any artists similarly inspired. The only limitation is that the work must be culturally sensitive.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park is considered to be the sacred ancestral homelands of the Hopi and Pueblo people. The site became part of the National Park System in 1907, and was named an UNESCO World Heritage Site 80 years later.

While Chacoan Culture was centered within the canyon with its spectacular great houses and dense concentration of monumental architecture, Chacoan influence extended much farther, throughout the San Juan Basin and beyond. The entire region contains outlying great houses which show many of the same features as the great houses in Chaco Canyon, though generally on a smaller scale. These outlying great houses, and the great kivas and communities of small-house sites with which they are usually associated, show clear evidence of the spread of the Chacoan system throughout a remarkably wide area.

**"Sacred Places: Honoring Chacoan Culture" will be on display at the library from July 20 through August 29. Join us for the artists' reception on Friday, August 2 at 5 PM.**



**JULY: Your Summer Reading Program and Reading Challenge, "Adventure Begins at Your Library" continue with:**

**July 13 at 1 PM:** A fun-filled Taylor Swift beading party, where kids will make several friendship bracelets while listening to Taylor's music in the background. An assortment of colorful



beads will be provided. Our creative and knowledgeable instructors will guide you through the entire process, from selecting the beads to making your very own bracelets!

**July 20 at 1 PM:** Glass art with Karen Shatar. Kids will paint a design of their own choosing on glass. Please bring a picture to trace onto the 5"x5" piece of glass, or you can use a picture provided by us. Coloring books would be a good source.

**July 27 at 1 PM:** Explora Family Science Event. Reading prizes and gift bags will be given out. And there will be cake!

### Summer Reading Challenge

This is the most important part of our summer program! The goal is simply to read as many books as possible starting May 18 until July 27. Reading during the summer break from school helps your child stay on their reading grade level or even raise it higher. This benefits your child when school starts again. Each child will receive a reading log where they record the titles of the books they read.

Remember the **4 R's: Read, Record, and Remember** to bring your reading log to each program.

**Receive a Raffle** ticket for a prize drawing. There will be special prizes for the top readers in each age group such as Albuquerque Isotopes tickets and gift certificates and more.

### AUGUST

**Tuesday, August 13 at 10 AM:** Pre-k Story Hour with stories, activities, and refreshments

**PLACITAS Community LIBRARY Children's Committee** invites you to our **Summer Reading Program**

# ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY

**REMEMBER THE 4 Rs:**  
**R** **EA**D books (or have them read to you).  
**R** **E**CORD the titles in your log.  
**R** **E**MEMBER to bring the log to each event.  
**R** **E**CEIVE a raffle ticket!

There'll be special prizes for the top readers in each age group, such as Isotope fix, gift certificates, and MORE!

**8** **EXPLORE CEREALISM**  
2:00 Join modern pop artist, Michael Albert, who makes collages from cereal boxes; who'll guide you as you make your own collage.

**15** **EXOTICS OF THE RAINFOREST**  
2:00 Carolyn and Sparky Newell visits again with many beautiful tropical birds, snakes, and other animals.

**22** **THE WANAGI WOLF RESCUE**  
2:00 Stephanie Kaylan returns with her beautiful wolves and wolf dogs.

**29** **STEM GOES TO THE OLYMPICS**  
1:00 Explore the relationship between science and sports with Stephanie and Walt Witkowski. Remember their terrific windmill activity from last summer?

**13** **BEADS! BEADS! BEADS!**  
1:00 A beading party where kids will make several friendship bracelets with the help of the library beading group.

**20** **CLASS WITH GLASS**  
1:00 Glass art with Karen Shatar. Kids will paint a design of their own choosing on glass. Remember decorating glass balloons last September with Karen?

**27** **SCIENCE WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY!**  
1:00 An *Explora!* Family Science Event! Reading prizes and gift bags will be given out. And did we mention cake?!

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Summer is upon us and with it comes the Summer Reading Program for children at our library. This year's theme is *Adventure Begins at Your Library*. Adventures come in many forms – mysteries, new experiences, exploring the unknown. Below are three books that reflect such adventures.

### ***Chester Keene Cracks the Code***

**by Kekla Magoon**

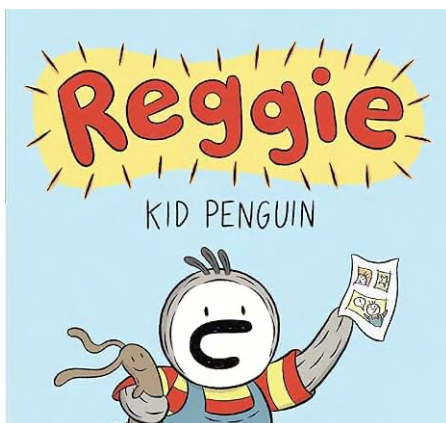
**Suggested ages: 8-12 years**

The mission of discovering clues and interpreting their meanings is bound to be wrapped up in mystery and adventure. Chester Keene finds himself immersed in such a task with the discovery of a peculiar clue hanging from the doorknob of his house as he rushes to catch the bus to mid-school. Being a loner, he is set to follow this trail of clues on his own. Soon, however, he finds himself joined by energetic, quirky Skye who, instead of being risk adverse, is open to new experiences. Magoon is adept in shining a positive light on both such contrasting personalities.

Along with the exciting challenge of deciphering and following the clues, Chester has several other trials he encounters – how to deal with the class bully, what message his dad, whom he has never met, is trying to send him, and what the mysterious four-some, which he and Skye have noticed, is really up to.



In addition to an engaging plot, Magoon skillfully and sensitively intertwines the familiar emotions of mid-schoolers along with the challenges of a blended family. Adventure permeates not only this clue-filled mystery but the trials of new relationships.



### ***Reggie: Kid Penguin***

**by Jen de Oliveira**

**Suggested ages: 5-7 years**

This is the first in an early graphic novel series, perfect for the beginning reader. The book contains several short stories in which Reggie, full of energy and curiosity, embarks on a variety of adventurous experiences.

Disgusted with being on a “kid leash,” he decides to behave as a dog, resulting in some hilarious antics. Disappointed that he



can't wear his super penguin costume for portrait time, Reggie attempts to create his own outfit with some unintended outcomes! And along with his friends, Reggie hopes to build a village for roly-polies, discovering that what are adventurous and fun experiences for them does not necessarily translate to roly-polies.

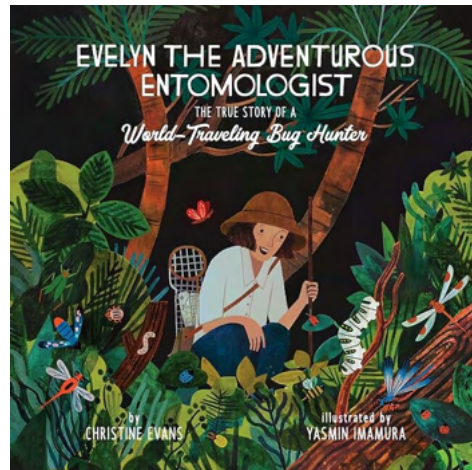
With the use of colorful, sequential pictures filled with action and emotion, along with a limited vocabulary, *Reggie* offers an entertaining reading adventure!

## ***Evelyn the Adventurous Entomologist: The True Story of a World-Traveling Bug Hunter***

**by Christine Evans, illustrated by Yasmin Imamura**

**Suggested ages: 6-9 years**

Evelyn Cheesman was born in 1881 in England, when few girls became scientists and even fewer became passionate about insects. In this setting, Evans introduces to children a little-known English entomologist. At an early age, Evelyn loved to explore forests and ponds where she began collecting bugs – in her pockets! She at first decided she wanted to be a veterinarian, but veterinary colleges did not admit women and so she settled to be trained as a canine nurse.



Evelyn's life took a sharp turn, however, when her cousin told her of the desperate need for someone to run the insect house at the London Zoo. Most men at the time were soldiers fighting in World War II. And so, while enhancing the insectarium, she began studying entomology. Evelyn became fascinated with the world of insects and fed this curiosity by many adventurous trips all over the world. She studied and collected a variety of these amazing creatures, having settled on her life's work. She discovered new species, wrote books, and even received an award from the Queen of England.

*Evelyn the Adventurous Entomologist* is an inspiration to all children to pursue their dreams and interests no matter what impediments they may face. The book's colorful illustrations add interest and life to Evelyn's amazing story. At the book's end, the reader will find an interview with a contemporary entomologist as well as further information on Lucy Evelyn Cheesman.

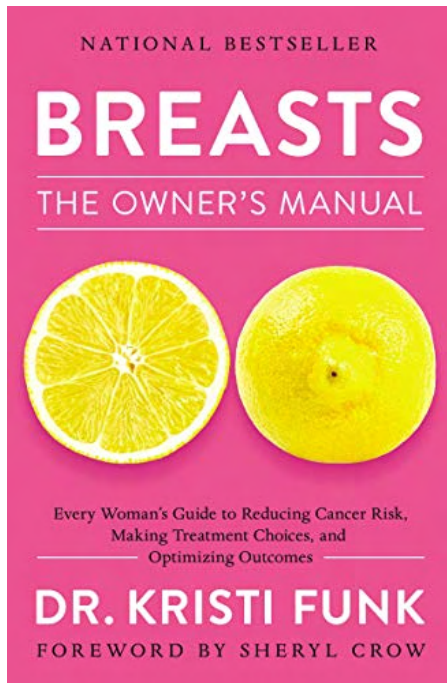
## ***Susanne's Selections***

**Reading Recommendations  
By Susanne Domínguez**



**Available for e-Checkout!**

The titles in *Susanne's Selections* have been added to our [Online Catalog](#) (which you can access with your library card).



## *Breasts: The Owner's Manual: Every Woman's Guide to Reducing Cancer Risk, Making Treatment Choices, and Optimizing Outcomes*

by Kristi Funk, MD

One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer during their lives. Breast cancer is the #1 killer of women ages 20–59. Did you know that only 5 to 10 percent of all breast cancer comes from an inherited gene mutations including BRCA mutations? 90 to 95 percent of all breast cancer DOES NOT come from an inherited genetic mutation. In her immensely informative book, Funk provides women with the most up-to-date tools for prevention and a complete guide to treatment options, including a glossary of related medical terminology and explanations for readers with non-medical backgrounds. Our lifestyle and eating choices as an industrialized nation and those countries that adopt our habits such as Japan, have significantly increased their breast cancer rates. Dr. Funk believes nutrition, alcohol, lack of exercise, obesity, hormone replacement therapy, emotional

stress, and environmental toxicities are the primary factors in causing breast cancer. An advocate for eating healthy food, she states powerful plant compounds that block carcinogenic activity (indole-3-carbinol sulforaphane) are in foods such as broccoli, garlic, soy, walnuts, berries, and some others which she mentions. Phytonutrients including green tea, grapes, flaxseeds, avocados, and oranges exert anti-carcinogenic powers by preventing DNA damage, tempering cancer cells growth, stimulating the immune system, and inhibiting the new blood supply to tumor cells, among other incredible activities.

Dr. Funk's fervent mission is to educate women about what they can do to prevent breast cancer before it starts. Included in her book is a long-term risk reduction plan for every woman based on her needs, as well as the latest information regarding diagnosis and treatment for women living with and surviving breast cancer. She backs everything with meticulously researched studies, cited in the footnotes. In the first part of her book, Funk teaches readers about food (especially foods that “keep estrogen in check, since estrogen fuels 80% of breast cancer”) and lifestyle choices, such as supplements and exercise that can reduce your risk for breast cancer. Four out of five breast cancer cases are fed by estrogen. Certain foods can lower the amount of estrogen produced by the body and subsequently lower the risk of developing breast cancer. They also reduce the risk of recurrence among breast cancer survivors. In the second half of the book, she addresses uncontrollable risk factors and what you can do to reduce your risk factor.

From Dr. Funk's website:

*“Kristi Funk, MD is a board-certified breast cancer surgeon and physician, bestselling author, international keynote speaker and women’s health advocate. Dr. Funk practices as a surgical breast specialist at the [Pink Lotus Breast Center](#) in Los Angeles, where she excels as an expert in minimally invasive diagnostic and treatment methods for all types of breast disease. She has helped thousands of women through breast cancer treatment, including well-known celebrities, like Angelina Jolie and Sheryl Crow, who have turned to her for her surgical expertise. Dr. Funk has been a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons since 1999 and a member of the American Society of Breast Surgeons since 2002. Dr. Funk resides in Santa Monica, CA with her husband and triplet sons. Writing her book required a deep dive into thousands of clinical studies to back up her findings; Dr. Funk’s extensive nutritional science research caused her to expand the passion for her medical practice with the life-empowering [Cancer-Kicking!](#) program, including the new launched [kitchen series](#). The [Cancer-Kicking!](#) program teaches women (and men) how to maximally reduce their chances of facing cancer and other controllable killer diseases.*

*After graduating with distinction in Psychology from Stanford University in 1991, Dr. Funk received her medical degree from the UC Davis, School of Medicine, in 1996. She then completed her 5-year general surgery residency in Seattle, followed by a surgical breast fellowship at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, where she then*

thrived as a surgeon and Director of their breast center for another 7 years. In 2009, Dr. Funk opened the Pink Lotus Breast Center in Beverly Hills, which at the time became the first breast cancer center of its kind, fusing state-of-the-art screening, genetic testing, diagnosis and surgical treatment with preventive strategies and holistic, compassionate care – all under one roof. The goal here being, in Dr. Funk's own words, 'so you don't give cancer a happy home.'"

Dr. Funk also founded the Pink Lotus Foundation. It's "a nonprofit organization that enables low-income, uninsured and under insured women in the U.S. to receive **100% free breast cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment services.**"

It's such an educational, worthwhile book, I gave copies to my friends and relatives to increase their awareness about this health issue. I apologize for the lengthy book review but, my hope is that as many women as possible read it and share with others.

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## Honeybees and Distant Thunder

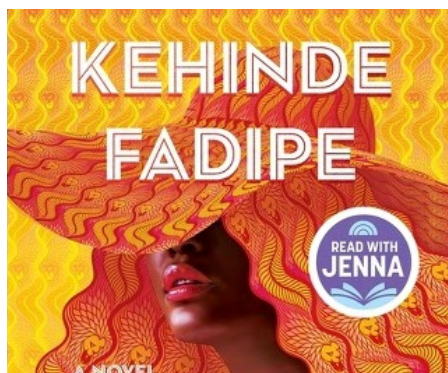
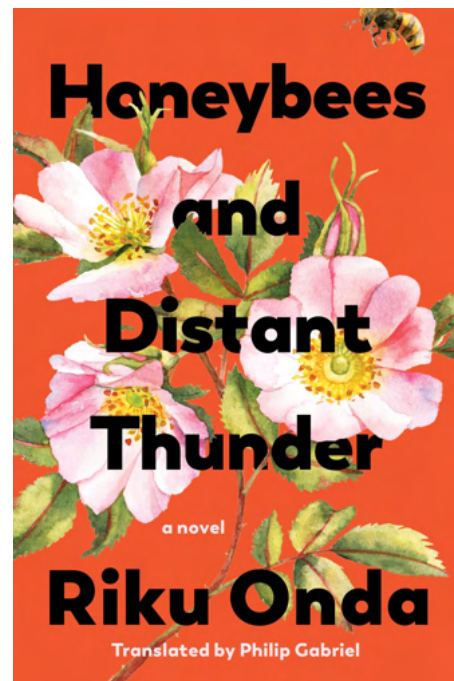
by Riku Onda

In the world renowned Yoshigae competition, ninety international pianists compete for the coveted prize. Thirteen judges consider how each musician's interpretation of the music by Brahms, Rachmaninoff, and other legendary composers, transform and transport listeners. Technical skill is not enough. Each musician's interpretation is a result of his or her personality and unique technique. The story focuses on four competitors.

Akashi, at 28 years old, is older, married with children, and works in a music store. He is known as the "old man" of the competitors, hoping to at least rate high in the competition, since he believes he is too old to begin a career as a pianist. Masaru Carlos Levi Anatole, a Julliard student, lived in Japan as a young child and was a childhood friend of Aya, another competitor, whom he is happily connecting with. Aya was a prodigy as a young girl but sadly quit the piano competition circuit after her mother died. She hopes to make a comeback.

Then there is 16-year-old Jin, who hopes to win so his beekeeper father will buy him a piano. Amazingly, he has no piano to play or practice. Jin, with no formal training, is a wildcard – completely unrestrained, unique, and creative. A free spirit, he finds the competition stuffy. The judges are mystified and horrified by his unconventional behavior, yet they are overwhelmed with his spellbinding insight into music.

As the story unfolds, the struggles and life experiences each competitor has had is reflected in the music they play, along with the specific approach they've chosen. Their relationships with each other, friendships, originality versus tradition, and competition are all explored in this engaging novel. Readers don't need to be knowledgeable about classical music to appreciate this immersive read.



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## The Sun Sets in Singapore

by Kehinde Fadipe

Not only is this an engrossing and entertaining "beach read" on one level, it also provides much food for thought regarding themes such as relationships, sexism, ambition, betrayal, and racism on another level. Three expat Nigerian women living extravagant lifestyles in Singapore's competitive business community, meet at a book club and become friends. When Lani, an accomplished and handsome Nigerian-British man relocates



to Singapore from Geneva, he affects them in different intriguing ways.

After following her husband from the U.S. to Singapore, Lillian is still depressed about her parents' deaths. She's a former concert pianist and at present, a housewife. Sadly, her emotional health is damaged from several devastating miscarriages. She's shocked when she meets Lani because enigmatically, he closely resembles her father.

Amaka, a banker, is in the midst of a family feud and love affair. She is addicted to shopping for designer clothes and accessories which she cannot afford. The purchases only briefly assuage her stress. When she meets Lani, she is attracted to him and eventually becomes obsessed with him.

Dara is a dedicated, hardworking attorney, determined to become a partner in her employer's law firm. When Lani is hired at Dara's company, Dara believes Lani has been hired by the CEO to become a partner in the law firm. She has worked ceaselessly to achieve her goal of becoming a partner and considers Lani an interloper. He has taken over a case she intended to be her "crowning glory" to secure her law partnership. She also resents the easy camaraderie he enjoys with senior personnel. Coming from wealth, Dara views Lani as privileged and arrogant.

Fadipe includes a list of superb books at the end of her book, *The Singapore Book Club's Reading List*, which include Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*, *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi, and *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen.

*Dear readers, I hope you enjoy widening your horizons and reading books set in locations outside the U.S. and learning about different countries, histories, and cultures. To me, learning is one of the most important parts of reading.*

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