

Art Docent Lecture May 13: Peter Paul Rubens, the Early Years



From the Early Rubens exhibit at the Legion of Honor Museum, April 6 to Sept. 8

FAL's popular art docent program continues in May with a presentation on Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640). Rubens was celebrated for his skillful handling of oil paint, his sensuous coloring, and his taut, action-packed depictions of dramatic narratives. Early Rubens focuses on what is arguably the artist's most innovative period of production, from 1608 until about 1620.

May 13, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch

Next Art Docent Program: June 10:
Andy Warhol

AAUW-FAL Author Series with Alison Hart May 8

Spanning four generations of a mixed-race family, Alison Hart's novel *Mostly White* is a powerful tale of inter-generational trauma and the healing brought by wildness, music, and the resilience of women. Throughout this sweeping and compassionate novel, Alison Hart's unforgettable characters struggle with racism, poverty, and how to honor the call of their ancestors while forming their own identities. Alison Hart studied theater at New York University and later found her voice as a writer.

May 8, 6 p.m.
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch

Reservations requested:

<https://alisonhart-aauw2019.eventbrite.com>



Friends of the Alameda Free Library seeks board members

Friends of the Alameda Free Library is actively seeking to fill vacancies on its Board of Directors. If you or someone you know would be interested, we would love to hear from you.

As a voting member of the board, you would have the chance to influence the function and direction of the Friends. Members are volunteers who passionately support the library and are willing to devote time and resources to fundraising, community outreach events and library advocacy. They attend the monthly meetings of the board, usually participate in one or more of the Friends' committees, and help with the various methods of fundraising that the organization uses to support the library.

We hope to expand the diversity of the Board to help inspire creativity and fresh thinking. Also, there is a need for anyone with:

- business background and/or connections to the Alameda business community;
- skills in accounting or bookkeeping, grant writing, insurance, or investments;
- social media expertise and/or web page design and maintenance experience.

For more information or an application, contact Karen Butter, FAL board president at volunteer@alamedafriends.com.

Library Summer Reading Challenge, all ages, June 1-July 31

Adult events:

- Wednesday, June 12 — Paint Sample Art, 6-8 p.m.
- Saturday, June 29 — Raise Your Voice Readers Theater/Story Slam, 1-3 p.m. at Rythmix Cultural Center
- Sunday, July 7 — My First American, 2-4 p.m.
- Saturday, July 20 — I Am Alameda Photomosaic compilation, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 31 — Summer Reading Challenge reception, 5:30- 7 p.m.



Teen events:

- Wednesday, June 12 — Teen Advisory Board, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 12 — Teen Book Club, 6:30-7:15 p.m.
- Thursday, June 13 — Pride Nail Art, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 15 — Book Buzz: Hot Summer Reads, 2-3 p.m.
- Thursday, June 27 — Movie Screening: *Into the Spider-verse*, 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 10 — Teen Advisory Board, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 10 — Teen Book Club, 6:30-7:15 pm
- Saturday, July 13 — Book Swap and Button Making, 2-3 p.m.
- Thursday, July 18 — Movie Screening: *Crazy Rich Asians*, 2 p.m.
- Saturday, July 27 — Nailed It: Cookie Decorating Challenge, 2-4 p.m.

Eileen Bitten, Alamedan, FAL Board Member: 1945-2019

It is with great sadness that FAL Board Members report the recent death of Board Member Eileen Bitten.

A Friend of the Alameda Library for many years, Eileen served both as president and vice president of the Friends Board of Directors. Her unruffled composure, good humor and expansive ideas helped our organization grow and evolve.

Eileen spent 40 years in the field of human resources. She was recognized with several awards in her field. She was a pioneer in the area of equal opportunities for women and the innovative creator of many employee self-improvement programs.

Eileen is also recognized for her service in the community. She was Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley and served as a docent at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. Locally, in addition to serving on the Friends board, she was active with the Community of Harbor Bay Isle and her homeowners association.



President's Board Report: March Meeting

The Library is working on a policy to eliminate fines on overdue material. Several other Bay Area libraries have done so. Individuals who don't return books will be charged for the book after a specified length of time.

The Communications Committee would like to experiment in recording various FAL events, with appropriate permissions, and making them available on the website. This will highlight our activities and perhaps attract the community to FAL and its events. The Communications Committee will develop a budget and necessary policies to guide the project.

With assistance from Stephanie Lipow the Spring Appeal requesting donations to FAL was mailed to around 500 individuals. FAL sends out 2 appeals a year – the Spring and Fall. Using technology to reach people was discussed but we need to identify systems to make it easy to give and track giving as a first step.

Booksale Manager Peg Rosen noted that there are 780 boxes for the spring sale, slightly less that less fall. The Book Sale Committee will increase the price on Sunday to \$5 per bag and \$7 for a box. The committee is still waiting for the go-ahead from the City to move into a new city-owned storage facility and end the short term commercial lease. The plan is to move into the space after the book sale as new donations are received.

The Board voted to replace the bookshelf donor name plates in the Main Library since many of the current ones are unreadable. Name plates for new donors will be priced at \$250 and advertised in the newsletter.

FAL will deliver lunch to library staff during Library Week and staff a table at Earth Day on April 20

—Karen Butter



Mission: Friends of the Alameda Free Library

- ◆ To provide a variety of ways to contribute to the ongoing services and growth of the Alameda Free Library for the enjoyment and benefit of the entire community.
- ◆ To act as steward for the library and its many services and programs through advocacy, volunteerism, and fund-raising to supplement public funding.

2018 FAL Officers and Directors

President: Karen Butter

Vice President: Kumar Fanse

Secretary: David Beall

Treasurer: Bill Gibbs

Directors: Luzanne Engh, Marlene Grcevich, Karen Manuel, Honora Murphy, Billy Reinschmiedt, Carole Robie, Karen Roemer, Eileen Savel, and Jo Winzenread.

Newsletter Production: Karen Roemer, Jan Greene

Copy Editor: Kris Matarrese

Friends
of the
Alameda
Free Library

P.O. Box 1024

Alameda, CA 94501

Return Service Requested

Coming Events

May 3-5: FAL Used Book Sale
Alameda Point, "O" Club

May 8: Author Series: Alison Hart
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch
6 to 8 p.m.

May 13: Art Docent Lecture: Peter Paul Rubens
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch
6:30 to 8 p.m.

June 1-July 31: Summer Reading Challenge
(all ages and all branches)

June 10: Art Docent Lecture: Andy Warhol
Alameda Free Library, Main Branch
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Stay in touch!

Information: info@alamedafriends.com

Become a volunteer: volunteer@alamedafriends.com

Donate funds, services, etc.: donate@alamedafriends.com

For the latest information on Friends events check our website:
www.alamedafriends.com.

