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## FAL President Karen Butter's Letter to Alameda Library Patrons



In just a few short days our lives have changed dramatically - in ways that we never envisioned. We have added new words to our vocabulary: coronavirus disease, COVID-19, social distance, shelter-in-place. The coronavirus sheltering-in-place is hitting home for many of us as we all do our part to stop the spread. As you will read in this newsletter we have cancelled the Spring Used Book Sale, our largest money maker, with very heavy hearts. We know that many throughout the Bay Area depend upon the book sale to stock up on great bargains. We rely on its income to support Library programs. We have also cancelled the very popular Museum Art Docent Talks that enrich our community, describing outstanding exhibits in Bay Area Museums.

Today, we are fortunate that technology is a great enabler. For the Board and other meetings we are testing video conferencing tools to conduct business and to stay on top of the evolving challenges of the virus. Our outstanding library has a wealth of online material - from ebooks, audiobooks, database for magazines, homework help for kids and Kanopy for streaming movies. Check out the online resources page on the Library's website. Now is the time to enjoy your library from home! I want to call your attention to our fantastic program in February – Black Youth: Exploring the Road to Success that is now available through streaming on the FAL website under events. Thanks to the Rotary for their support of this program.

Your health and safety are of utmost importance. Over the next few months we will evaluate and adjust our programs as information becomes available. We thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Be safe and take care of each other.

Karen Butter, President, FAL

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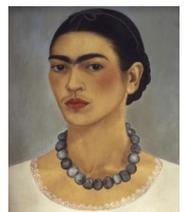
## Ways to connect to FAL programs from home

1. Our Art Docent Lectures:

-Frida Kahlo Art Docent: <https://youtu.be/S9Vz9xdMNUA>

-David Park Art Docent: <https://youtu.be/8qx-JWZ60e0>

2. Our recent Black History Panel discussion on Black Youth: Exploring the Road to Success: <https://youtu.be/Kgz8GKUVMa0>



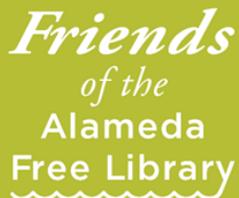
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## Support us and businesses that support us

1. Donate funds or services to FAL: [donate@alamedafriends.com](mailto:donate@alamedafriends.com)

2. Subscribe to The Alameda Sun (\$25.00 a year) that promote our many programs throughout the year at: [www.alamedasun.com/subscribe](http://www.alamedasun.com/subscribe)

3. Consider buying a gift card from Rocket Reuse (the last remaining used bookstore in Alameda) to help keep them in business during this crisis at <https://rocketreuse.com>



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## **Alameda Free Library is closed The Friends cancel upcoming events**

In the wake of the temporary closure of the Alameda Free Library due to Coronavirus prevention measures, FAL has cancelled the following events.

**April 13:** The Art Docent lecture on **David Park**. We are hopeful it can be rescheduled.

**April 20:** The Alameda Author Series, cosponsored by FAL and AAUW, with **Edna Cabcabin Moran**.

**May 1-3:** **FAL Used Book Sale**. Used books are not being accepted at this time. We will let you know when we reopen for book donations.

**Be well; be safe. We all hope this will be over soon. Connect with our website for more information.**

### **While sheltering in place, remember:**

1. Take the Census, either on line or by mail. It is vital all residents of California are counted! If you cannot respond on line, the Census Bureau will send a paper questionnaire to your address. We all “depend on information from the Census Bureau for programs for families and children, as well as for equal employment opportunities for you and your neighbors.” From the U.S. Census Bureau
2. Alameda Free Library has many resources available in their e-Library. Visit <https://www.alamedafree.org> to access them. If you need help from a librarian, you can email library staff at [refdesk@alamedaca.gov](mailto:refdesk@alamedaca.gov)
3. Virtual storytime on Instagram Live (stories that disappear after 24 hours); follow the library on Instagram [@alamedafreelibrary](https://www.instagram.com/alamedafreelibrary)

### **Stay in touch!**

Information: [info@alamedafriends.com](mailto:info@alamedafriends.com)

Become a volunteer: [volunteer@alamedafriends.com](mailto:volunteer@alamedafriends.com)

Donate funds, services, etc.: <https://alamedafriends.com/support-us/>

For the latest information on Friends events, check our website: [www.alamedafriends.com](http://www.alamedafriends.com).