

# December 2023 Newsletter



## ***Giving Thanks and Celebrating!***

November and December bring us delightful chances to do both, and the Moorpark Friends of the Library have good reason to celebrate this very fine year of 2023.

**March** gifted us with a super-successful event at the High Street Arts Center—the colorful and exotic Night of International Dance and Culture.

In **April**, MFOTL enjoyed supporting the big Kids Fest at the library and the opportunity to mingle with the 600+ attendees!

In **June**, MFOTL Members Appreciation and General Meeting was our best ever, with great attendance, jazzy music, and yummy food.

**July** brought us the affirmation of our new library at 17,500 square feet.

In **September**, MFOTL members defined the bookstore and work area configuration and equipment for the new library.

**October** – The moon and the sun gave us a beautiful annular solar eclipse and the library provided a week-long celebration, ending with the viewing party on October 14. MFOTL was happy to support and participate in the event.

**November** was a big month – special fundraising for the new library at the “Live Comedy at the Funeral Home”, with positive feedback about tons of laughter and socialization; support for and participation in the Tiny Art reception; and support for and participation in the Local Author Showcase & Book sale. AND—we completed our redesign and update of our brochure. Pick one up at the library and give it to a friend!

**December** – “Letters from Santa” delight the little ones and boost our fundraising goals.

Throughout the year, our bookstore workers kept our shelves stocked, providing wonderful bargains for library patrons in the store and at special book sales. Our faithful members, donors, event teams, and volunteers enriched our library support funds.

For all of this

## ***We Are Thankful***

Rosalie Barili  
President, Moorpark Friends of the Library

## New Library Update

The City recently initiated construction drawings from the architect, and as a part of that approval, an updated schedule was received. This is a planned schedule, with the understanding that unavoidable circumstances could shift it outward.

In line with this new schedule, the City is working to get all the required elements in place so that it can award a construction contract in June 2024. Construction could begin in August 2024, with potential completion in January 2026.

As with all projects subject to the elements, there is potential for delay due to weather or other unknown factors. However, we can rejoice in this progress that represents real movement in our journey towards our new library—the best we have experienced in many years!

~Rosalie Barili, with information from Jessica Sandifer, Community Services Manager



## Unique Vintage Book Silent Auction



Starting on January 9, 2024, the Friends of the Library will start hosting silent auctions for vintage books.

The first silent auction will last for one week, ending at 3 p.m. January 16, and will be for two books: *Around The World With Knife, Fork & Spoon* and *Around The World With Jigger Beaker & Flask*, both written by Charles H. Baker Jr., copyright 1946.

There will be a clipboard in the library where you can write your name, contact information, and bid. The highest bidder will be contacted on January 16 and have one week to pay for and pick up the books. Cash or checks only. After one week, if books have not been paid for they will be awarded to the next highest bidder.

If you have questions please contact Diana Fowler at [mom2jt@sbcglboal.net](mailto:mom2jt@sbcglboal.net).

~Diana Fowler

## SAVE THE DATE!

NIGHT OF INTERNATIONAL DANCE AND CULTURE

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024

Watch for more details on this exciting event sponsored by the Moorpark Friends of the Library for the benefit of the library.

Dear Friends,

As the year draws to a close, I am delighted to extend my warmest wishes to each one of you during this festive season. It's been an incredible year filled with literary delights, engaging events, and wonderful community connections. Our Library has been a hub of inspiration and learning, largely due to your unwavering support and enthusiasm.

Reflecting on the last couple of months, I am thrilled to recap two standout events: the Solar Eclipse Viewing Party and Local Author Showcase & Book Sale.

### **Solar Eclipse Celebration: A Moment of Celestial Wonder**

The Solar Eclipse Viewing Party on October 14 brought together 100 enthusiastic attendees of all ages, backgrounds, and levels of astronomical knowledge to witness a celestial spectacle like no other. The event featured an array of telescopes and solar filters available for use, which allowed attendees to get up close and personal with the eclipse, providing breathtaking views of the sun's gradual transformation.

Pam Hoffman, founder of Everyday Spacer and member of the Ventura County Astronomical Society, was ready and willing to answer questions, explain the science behind the eclipse, and offer guidance on safe viewing. These interactions enriched our understanding of the eclipse and fostered a sense of community among attendees. It provided an opportunity to connect with fellow astronomy enthusiasts, share experiences, and make new friends.

### **Local Author Showcase & Book Sale: Celebrating Literary Talent**

Our Local Author Showcase on November 18 was a resounding success, thanks to the incredible support from our community. We were honored to host an array of talented local wordsmiths who shared their passion, creativity, and stories with us. The diverse range of genres, from captivating fiction to thought-provoking non-fiction, illuminated the richness of our local literary scene. Witnessing the engagement between authors and readers underscored the magic of storytelling and its ability to unite us all.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to both the authors who generously shared their work and our patrons whose enthusiastic participation made this event truly special. Your support fosters a culture of appreciation for literature and encourages the growth of our local literary talents.

As we approach the end of the year, I want to express my deepest appreciation to each of you, the Friends of the Library. Your unwavering support, whether through volunteering, advocacy, or attendance at our events, enriches our library and strengthens our community.

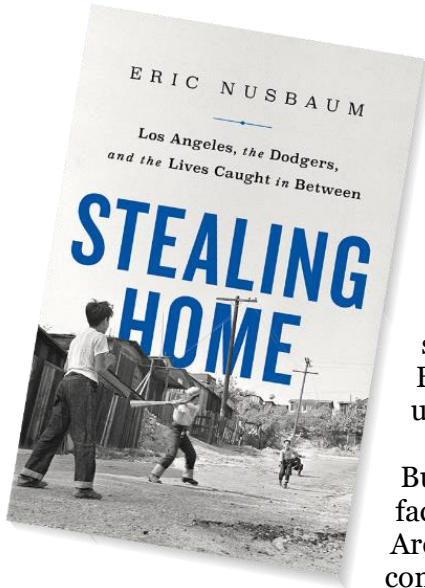
Wishing you all a festive December filled with warmth, joy, and delightful reads from our shelves.

Warm Regards,  
Christine Conwell, City Librarian



## What Are You Reading?

*Stealing Home – Los Angeles, the Dodgers, and the Lives Caught in Between* by Eric Nusbaum (2020)



Dodger Stadium is an American icon. But its story goes far beyond baseball. The hills that cradle the stadium were once home to three vibrant Mexican American communities. In the early 1950's, those communities were condemned to make way for a utopian public housing project. Then, in a remarkable turn, public housing in the city was defeated amongst a Red Scare conspiracy.

Instead of getting their homes back, the remaining residents saw the city sell their land to Walter O'Malley, the owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Now LA would be getting a different sort of utopian fantasy – a glittering, ultra-modern stadium.

But before Dodger Stadium could be built, the city would have to face down the neighborhood's families – including one, the Archigas, who refused to yield their home. The ensuing confrontation captivated the nation – and the divisive outcome still echoes through Los Angeles today.

As an avid Dodger fan and a frequent visitor to Dodger Stadium, I was embarrassingly unaware of this story, this showdown. Nusbaum's research and reporting is extensively deep about city politics, baseball history, and injustice to the people in these communities.

~Teri Glazier

## Volunteers Wanted!

We invite your energy and commitment of time to fulfill our mission of supporting the library and its programs. For a better idea of what we do, and to discover your special interest, you are welcome to attend a board meeting. For further information, contact us at [mfotlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:mfotlibrary@gmail.com) to select a date from the following upcoming 2024 meeting dates:



January 16  
March 19  
May 21  
July 16  
September 17  
November 19



## “Live Comedy at the Funeral Home”

What looks colorfully decorated, tastes great, makes you laugh out loud and benefits the Moorpark City Library? It is none other than the Moorpark Friends of the Library’s annual “Live Comedy at the Funeral Home.” Our theme was Dia de los Muertos and the Perez Family Funeral Home in Camarillo graciously donated their facilities for the festivities. The chapel was decked out with beautiful mums, a colorful ofrenda (altar), and of course a coffin. Big thank you to Robert and Raylene Perez!

The wine social was well attended with standing room only and guests enjoyed delicious wine, cheese, and fruit. Then everyone was escorted to the chapel and comedy show by our local beauty queens. We were so lucky to have comedian, Hollywood TV and stage personality Rocky Whatule grace our stage. He has performed on Friends, Showtime and Comedy Central and we were thrilled and delighted to have him. We laughed until our sides ached, and a great time was had by all.

Finally, I would like to give a big thank you to the MFOTL board members and their husbands for helping make this a huge success for the library. Please mark your calendars for our next big fundraiser “Night of International Dance and Culture” on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at the historic High Street Theater. Hope to see you there!

~Lori Preciado



## Local Author Showcase & Book Sale



MFOTL board of directors’ members Rosalie Barili, Bernadette McDowell, Diana Fowler (seated), Teri Glazier, and Eleanor Villanueva (standing) at the event held in the Community Rooms of the Civic Center on November 18. They and Lou Langkusch (not pictured) enjoyed greeting authors, MFOTL members and other patrons and promoting the Friends’ activities and information—and book shopping, of course!

A grey day but a delightful one inside, where 27 authors created a lively event—don’t miss the Second Annual one!

~Rosalie Barili



## December 2023 to February 2024 Library Events!

### Children Programs:

Sunshine Storytime – Wednesdays, December 13 & 27, 10:30 am – 11:15 am

DIY Storytime – Wednesday, December 20, 10:30 am – 11:15 am

Bitty Bilinguals – Saturday, January 6, 10:30 am – 11:15 am

### Teen Programs:

Comic Book Club – Mondays, 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Grades 6-8 – December 18, January 29 & February 26

Grades 9-12 – January 8 & February 5

Teen Care Package – registration closes January 5, packages available in January

Gingerbread Zombies – Thursday, December 21, 4 pm – 5:30 pm

### Adult Programs:

Crafty Adults – first Thursday of the month, 2 pm or 6 pm

January 4 – Vision Boards

February 1 – Funfetti

Book Club for Adults – second Monday of the month, 6:30 pm

January 8 – *Rosy is My Relative* by Gerald Durrell

February 12 – *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi

Read It & Eat It – second Saturday of the month, 2 pm

January 13 – French

February 10 – Moroccan

Genre Book Club – fourth Thursday of the month, 6 pm

December 28 – Bring Your Own Book

January 25 – *The Three-Body Problem* by Cixin Liu (science fiction)

February 22 – *Love in the Time of Serial Killers* by Alicia Thompson (romance)



Check out  
pictures from  
two past  
Moorpark  
Library Events  
– Solar Eclipse  
Celebration  
and the Tiny  
Art Show!

# Moorpark Friends of the Library Membership

Our heartfelt thanks to our Friends for their kind support!

## Benefactor (\$500+ donation)

Rosalie Barili ~ Linda Goble ~ Nicki Partain ~ Joe Tedder

## Premier (\$100+ donation)

Carol Bejcy-Fullmer  
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Karly Rosalez  
Susan Salmore  
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Christine White  
Maggie Wong  
Marsha & Stewart Wyler

## Individual (\$10+ donation)

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Kathryn Garner

Andrea Lamberth  
Kathy Lucht  
Dr. Roseann Mikos  
Sharmila Parasumanna

Dorothy Purcell  
Sheri Raney  
Andrea Scott  
Teresa Williams



# Happy Holidays!



We wish all of our Moorpark Friends of the Library  
members a lovely festive season.



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## Board Members:

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