



October Events

at the

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library

Special Author Storytimes for Children!

Our library was expecting to host two very special storytimes for children and families this month! Unfortunately, one of the events has been canceled – as noted below.

Storytime and Craft with Author Rachel Abalos: On Saturday, October 5, at 10 am, join us at the library for a special storytime and craft with author Rachel Abalos where she'll read her book *Our Nipa Hut: A Story in the Philippines* and share a nipa hut craft! This book is recommended for ages 4 – 8. Bookmarks and bookplates will be given to attendees, and craft supplies will be distributed on a first-come-first-served basis. Books will be available for purchase on-site for the author to sign/personalize.

Storytime with Pulitzer Prize Winning Author Viet Thanh Nguyen: (**Unfortunately, this event has been canceled. It's not clear when or if it will be rescheduled.**) On Friday, October 18, at 10 am our library will host an exclusive storytime event with Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Viet Thanh Nguyen! Viet is a Vietnamese American author and USC professor and English department chair whose debut novel, *The Sympathizer*, won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. Viet's children's book, *Simone*, is a beautiful picture book, illustrated by Minnie Chan, with an unforgettable story of a Vietnamese American girl whose life is transformed by a wildfire. When Simone is awakened by her mom as a wildfire threatens their home, it is the beginning of a life-changing journey. This picture book has been described as "stunning." Books will be available for purchase on-site for the author to sign/personalize. (**Note: This event with Viet Thanh Nguyen has been canceled. It's not clear when or if it will be rescheduled.**)

Author Events for Adults and Teens

Novelist Thomas Wing: Join us on Tuesday, October 1, 4 pm–5 pm, as award-winning author Thomas Wing discusses his novel *Against All Enemies*, the publishing process, and his journey as a writer; followed by a Q&A. *Against All Enemies* is a Silver Finalist for the American Writing Awards, a Firebird Award Winner for Best Military Fiction, and a North American Book Awards Bronze Medal Winner for Military Fiction!

Language columnist/author Richard Lederer: On Tuesday, October 8, 4 pm–5 pm, Union-Tribune language columnist/author Richard Lederer will share an inclusive and diverse history of our great nation, including the contributions of women and Brown, Black, and indigenous Americans. Dr. Lederer is the author of more than 60 books about language, history, and humor, including his best-selling *Anguished English* series and his current titles, *American History for Everyone* and *A Feast of Word*. A founding co-host of the nationally syndicated "A Way With Words," broadcast on KPBS, Dr. Lederer has been named International Punster of the Year and Toastmasters International's Golden Gavel winner.

Comic book publisher/writer/historian Chris Ryall: On Tuesday, October 29, 4 – 5 pm, comic book publisher/writer/historian Chris Ryall will discuss “San Diego in Comic Books across the Decades.” Metropolis..., Gotham City..., New York City – these are the familiar settings of endless comic books! But Chris Ryall (*Origins of Marvel Comics*, *Mighty Marvel Calendar Book*, publisher, Syzygy/Image) is here to provide ample visuals and backstories that make the case for San Diego being discussed with the same reverence, thanks to the city’s many appearances in comics over the years. Chris Ryall is a comic-industry historian and the former President, Publisher, and CCO of IDW Publishing, and executive producer on Netflix’s *Locke & Key*. He is currently the co-founder of Image Comics imprint Syzygy, a freelance writer/editor/packager, and co-creator of Paramount Studio’s in-development series, *The Bullpen*.

Music Program

“The Pleasure of Your Company” concert series, sponsored by SRFOL, welcomes back celebrated pianist Dmitry Kirichenko on Sunday, October 20, at 2:30 pm. His playing, described by Paris music critic Claude Taelman as “warm sensitivity heightened by his delicate touch and great technical mastery,” is a perfect match for the Library’s fine Schimmel piano. His program, which will include works by Mozart, Schubert, and Chopin, is offered in memory of basketball great, Bill Walton, one of Dr. Kirichenko’s piano students (who incidentally would come to hear his teacher perform at our library).

A graduate of the Moscow and Odessa Conservatories, Dr. Kirichenko has performed throughout Europe and the United States. This concert was rescheduled from his previously planned performance last winter which was unfortunately canceled due to illness.

There is no charge for the concert, although donations are appreciated. Due to the current surge in COVID cases, masks are recommended although they are not required. Please visit <https://www.srfol.org> or call (858) 538-8158 for information. Visit <https://srfol.org/music.htm> for the schedule of monthly concerts and information about sponsorship opportunities.

Grace's Book Nook

Shop at Grace's Book Nook, open Monday through Saturday during library hours, for great bargains on gently used books and more for all ages and reading tastes. This month’s 2nd Saturday pop-up sale is on October 12, 10 am–2 pm. Your tax-deductible donations of gently used books are always welcome and can be brought to the library’s circulation desk. All proceeds are used to help support our library. Email booknook@srfol.org to explore volunteer opportunities.

Library Parking Update

The first phase of the library parking lot expansion project is now complete, and the upper lot has reopened. The lower lot remains completely closed, and there is no access from the overflow parking area on Meanley Drive, so parking at the library is currently even more limited than before. Check www.srfol.org for more information. We are looking forward to completion of the expansion, which will add 47 more parking spaces to the original 70 plus a second exit to the parking lot with a traffic light. **Note: It is now possible to drive into the upper lot and return books to the outside book drop.** You may wish to plan to visit the library when it is less busy; these times may include:

- Monday and Tuesday: 11:30 AM to 2:30 or 3 PM; 6 to 8 PM
- Wednesday – Friday: 9:30 AM to 2:30 or 3 PM; 5 to 6 PM
- Saturday: 3 or 4 PM to 6 PM

Programs for Children and Teens

Engaging programs for kids and teens continue at our library this month. Unfortunately, a number of the programs made possible through SRFOL's financial support, including several popular children's programs, are temporarily on hold through December due to changes in payment processing procedures mandated by the City; Mini-Movers and Music, the Art Smarts, Family Arts, and Toshwerks programs are affected.

- **Storytime:** Every Wednesday at 10 am in the Community Room. Storytime regularly incorporates books, songs, fingerplay, rhymes, and more. Geared toward preschoolers ages 2–5, but babies and toddlers may also enjoy.
- **Chess Club:** Saturdays, October 12 and 26, from 11 am to 1 pm. A free chess club, hosted by Level UP Enrichment, providing boards, pieces, and a great instructor to help you play chess! Parents must be present with students at all times and are encouraged to play along as well. Recommended for ages 6–12; open to all!
- **Pajama Signing Storytime:** Tuesday, October 8, 6–6:30 pm. A cozy and fun event for families with young children combining the joy of bedtime stories with the added bonus of Baby Sign Language (ASL). Presented by Jennifer Duncan of Signs at Play. Participants are encouraged to wear their pajamas (optional) and bring a stuffed animal for snuggles as they experience a children's book being read and signed. Sponsored by SRFOL.
- **Kamishibai StoryBox Theatre:** Tuesday, October 22, at 6 pm. Presented by Write Out Loud San Diego, "StoryBox" is the American name given to the Japanese storytelling tradition called *kamishibai*. StoryBox combines dramatic storytelling with a wooden theatre to showcase illustrations in an engaging family-friendly storytime experience for all ages!
- **Mediocre Writers Society – “Monsters, Haunted Houses, and Spooky Stories, Oh My!”:** Tuesday, October 15, 4 pm (elementary school level), and 5:30 pm (middle school); Tuesday, October 22, 4 pm (high school and adults). Sponsored by SRFOL.
- **In-N-Out Cover to Cover Reading Program:** October 5 to November 16; ages 4–12 are invited read 5 books and receive a free hamburger/cheeseburger from In-N-Out! Details at [<https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/cover-to-cover>].

Ongoing Programs for Adults

- **Mindful Meditation:** De-stress with Mindful Meditation, presented in collaboration with the Healthy Adventures Foundation, on Mondays at 1 pm. Take advantage of this opportunity to unwind as you participate in meditative breathing, guided imagery, and muscle contraction-relaxation exercises, which can help lower blood pressure, heart rate, and stress. Participants will learn how to use these techniques in their everyday lives. Sponsored by SRFOL.
- **Fun and Games for Seniors:** Join a convivial group of community members to play a variety of board games, etc. on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 3 pm and Thursdays from 10 am to 12 pm. Presented collaboration with Scripps Ranch 50 Plus.

- **Knitting Group:** The knitting group meets in the Seminar Room on Tuesdays from 12 to 2:30 pm. Open to all ages and skill levels. Learn the art of knitting. Bring a pair of needles, and we'll help get you going; yarn available if needed. See how much fun and gratifying knitting can be!
- **Open Beading:** The group of beading enthusiasts meets in the Seminar Room on Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 2 pm. Beaders of all levels are welcome, including beginners. Bring your own supplies.
- **Garden Share:** Saturday, October 12, from 2 to 3:30 pm. Join us to share your garden. Bring what you have to share; take home something you really want. Be sure to bring a bag to take home your finds! What to bring: Any extra bounty from the garden (produce, fruit, herbs, flowers, plants in pots), seeds, seedlings, and tools. Anything garden related is welcome. Come meet your fellow gardeners in the library's courtyard and share experiences! In collaboration with Sustainable Scripps Ranch.
- **Ageing Successfully Lectures:** Fridays, October 11 and October 25, from 10 to 11:30 am. Join us on October 11 to learn what to expect in the late stage of dementia, and to explore new ways to communicate and provide care as needs are changing. The program on October 25 is Medicare 2025. Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15 to December 7. What changes will there be for 2025, and what are your options regarding various Medicare Plans? Our speaker will be from HICAP (the Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program). HICAP provides free and objective information and counseling about Medicare. Come and meet them and learn about your specific rights and health care options. Presented in collaboration with Scripps Ranch 50 Plus. Free and open to the community!

Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group has returned to in-person meetings! This month the group is reading *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng. Join the discussion on Thursday, October 23, from 12:30–2:00 pm in the library's Seminar Room. Participants may bring their lunch but must remove all trash. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk. New members are welcome!

Social Media

- Facebook: @ScrippsMiramarRanchLibrary, @SDPLVirtualHub, @GracesBookNook
- Instagram: @srfolibrary, @sdpubliclibrary, @sdplteens

For details and updated information about programs and library happenings, check:

- SRFOL website [<https://www.srfol.org/>], or
- Library's Facebook page [<https://www.facebook.com/ScrippsMiramarRanchLibrary>].