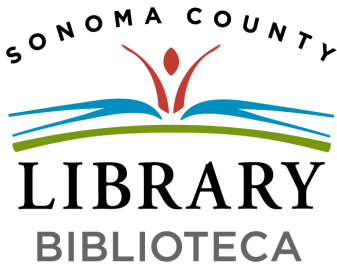


Library News December 2024



“A good library will never be too neat, or too dusty, because somebody will always be in it, taking books off the shelves and staying up late reading them.”

— Lemony Snicket

MEDIA ALERTS PAGE 3

Our mission is to bring information, ideas, and people together to build a stronger community

FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Sonoma County
Library Director
Erika Thibault**

Library Funding Supported

As the final votes from the November 5, 2024 general election are tallied, it is clear that Measure W, the ballot measure to renew a 1/8 sales tax, has been passed by voters.

By approving Measure W, Sonoma County

residents affirmed that they are committed to a future where the Sonoma County Library can continue providing the high level of service that they have come to know and love.

Winning this ballot measure demonstrates that Sonoma County Library has kept its promises to the voters, by offering seven-day service, providing quality programming

for children, teens, and adults, expanding access to our collections both in-person and through our BiblioBus outreach service and our extensive digital collections, and our talented and friendly staff who welcome you into the library each and every day.



As a library director, I wake up every morning grateful to live and work in a place that supports intellectual freedom and a vibrant and economically healthy library.

As I talk to library directors both in California and around the country, I know that many libraries are struggling, sometimes due to economic or cultural factors.

Let's continue to work together for a brighter future for Sonoma County, where we can collaborate, dream big, and advocate for what we believe in.

A promotional banner for free books. It features a purple background with a green horizontal stripe. On the left is a large green bow. On the right is a stack of colorful books tied with a rope. The text "Free Books" is in a large, white, serif font, with "(to borrow or stream)" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. Below that, "Libros Gratuitos" is written in a large, white, serif font, with "(en préstamo ó transmisión directa)" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it.

Free Books
(to borrow or stream)
Libros Gratuitos
(en préstamo ó transmisión directa)

Library News December 2024

OUR PATRONS SAY ...

From library patrons:

“The audiobook I wanted to listen to was available. Borrowing it through the app was quick, easy and the book was fantastic! I will be recommending the library’s audiobook collection to everyone.”

“Resources are top notch and they have some of the friendliest staff around.”

“Staff very helpful. procedures efficient. Clientele encouraging. saved a lot of money with not having to buy the books I want to read.”

“Sonoma County Library does a wonderful job serving its patrons and the community.”

“Great diversity of materials, friendly and helpful staff, online access.”

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR



Library Commission Chair Deborah Doyle

As the holidays unfold, we have reason to celebrate.

Many thanks go to those who worked so hard to successfully renew Sonoma County Library’s tiny sales tax. Sonoma County itself is poised for continued economic growth this year, yet not all will benefit.

The State of California has a significant deficit and there is uncertainty nationally about libraries and intellectual freedom. Let’s be grateful that our local libraries, supported by voters, will continue to provide information to all for free. As California State Librarian Greg Lucas says: “In tough, belt-tightening times, a library is the best bargain in town.”

Happy holidays!

Deborah Doyle
Chair, Sonoma County Library Commission
Free people read freely!

BiblioBus celebrates three years of service



Sonoma County Library’s BiblioBus recently celebrated its third birthday. This mobile library makes regularly-scheduled community stops at schools, senior residences, low-income housing complexes, and rural communities—all to build community connections and to meet patrons where they are. Patrons can browse, return, or check out books and videos; use complimentary WiFi; ask a librarian for recommendations; and much more. To learn more, visit sonomalibrary.org/bibliobus.



The Sonoma County Library Commission

Deborah Doyle, Town of Windsor, Commission Chair
Brooke Greene, City of Cloverdale, Commission Vice-Chair
David Cahill, City of Santa Rosa
Andy Elkind, City of Healdsburg
Fred Engbarth, City of Sebastopol
Eve Goldberg, County of Sonoma
Paul Heavenridge, City of Petaluma
Sarah Laggos, City of Santa Rosa / County of Sonoma
Barbara Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park
Tina Poles, City of Cotati
City of Sonoma; vacant
Erika Thibault, Library Director

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MEDIA ALERTS: Press inquiries communications@sonomalibrary.org

Library's annual Mock Caldecott picture book contest underway


Sonoma County Library's annual Mock Caldecott children's book contest has begun.

This fun event allows patrons to vote for their favorite illustrated children's book from nine titles selected by our children's librarians.

The real Caldecott Medal is one of the most prestigious awards in children's literature.

Each year, judges award medals based on how the book respects children's understandings, abilities, and appreciations.

Voting can be done in person at any library now through January 13, 2025. Winners will be announced on January 24, 2025.



VOTE
2024 BEST PICTURE BOOK

Mock Caldecott
December 1, 2024
— January 13, 2025

Books for voting:

- Aloha Everything (Kaylin Mella George)
- Eyes That Weave the World's Wonders (Joanna Ho)
- Angela's Glacier (Jordan Scott)
- Home in a Lunchbox (Cherry Mo)
- The Mochi Makers (Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson)
- More Dung! A Beetle Tale (Frank Weber)
- Ursula Upside Down (Corey R. Labor)
- Simone (Viet Thanh Nguyen)
- The Teeny-Weeny Unicorn (Shawn Harris)

Pick 2 of the books pictured
WINNERS will be announced
Friday, January 24!

The Caldecott Medal, named for illustrator Randolph Caldecott, is awarded annually by the American Library Association's Association for Library Service to Children to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

Know anyone who wants to improve their English?

Adult Literacy Program can help



In 2023-2024...

**SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY
ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS**

helped
232 ADULTS
improve reading, writing & English skill

community volunteers gave
7,469
service hours

Ask Us.

**We
can
help!**

The Sonoma County Library's Adult Literacy Program has provided free, informal one-on-one literacy tutoring to Sonoma County residents since 1987.

Learners improve their English skills to read medicine labels, search the Internet, pay bills, read a book from the library, and more.

Adult Literacy seeks more adults who want to improve their basic reading, writing, and English-speaking skills. (Tutors are not needed at this time) For more information, call 707-544-2622.

LIBRARIES ARE FOR EVERYONE