



SAN RAFAEL
LIBRARY AND RECREATION

CHECK IT OUT
LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

[Para la versión en español haga clic aquí.](#)

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY
SAN RAFAEL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Reflecting on the Importance of Libraries
A note from the Director

Leading up to the reopening celebration for the Downtown Library, I was reflecting on the role that the San Rafael Public Libraries have played in my own life. As a San Rafael native, some of my fondest childhood memories are from the Downtown Carnegie Library: singing along with storytimes, searching the shelves for my next book, eagerly submitting my summer reading log for a prize.

Now, as the Library and Recreation Director, I have the honor and privilege of helping to ensure that the San Rafael Public Libraries continue to grow and evolve to meet the needs of our community. Libraries are where we can meet someone new, where we can be exposed to different perspectives and where communities can grow and thrive. I believe that the role of libraries as a place of connection, discovery and wonder is especially critical in our increasingly digital and divided world.

In honor of the Downtown Library re-opening, I shared my thoughts and hopes for the future of our libraries in a Marin Voice article. I wanted to also take a moment to share that with you here.

Read the Full Article

Quick Highlights

The San Rafael Downtown Library Renovation was selected as a winner of the 2025 Excellence in Construction Awards by the North Bay Business Journal.

The Library recently learned that we will be receiving a \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, as part of their celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We plan to use the funding to expand the Library's public programming and create new opportunities for community engagement. [Learn more here.](#)

November 8 is International STEM Day! Stop by the San Rafael Library on **Saturday, November 8** to pick up your **Comb Kazoo Kit** and start experimenting with sound and music in this simple, fun, and educational STEM activity.

Celebrate **Origami Day** all week long at the Downtown Library! Drop in anytime at the Teens' and Children's areas from **November 10th to the 16th** to fold, create, and take home your very own origami masterpiece.

News Spotlight



Libby Update

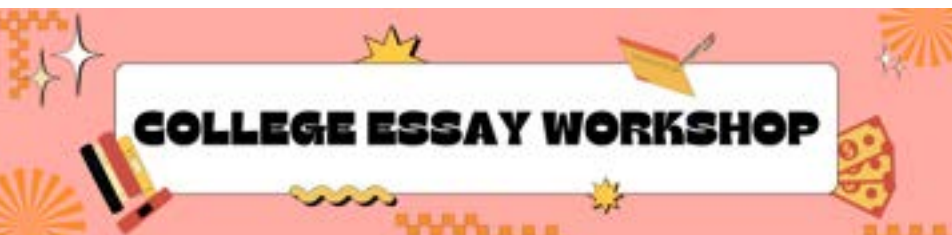
We've heard from you! We're making changes to our hold and checkout limits to help shorten wait-lists in Libby!

Effective November 1, 2025
Libby holds will go from 25 to 15 at a time.
Libby checkouts will go from 25 to 15 at a time.

What does this mean for you?
If you borrow digital materials only sometimes, you likely will not notice a change. If you have more than 15 holds or checkouts, you will keep what you already have. You just will not be able to place new holds or borrow more items until your total is under the new limit.

More Info

Program Spotlight



Tuesday, November 4
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
5:00 PM–6:00 PM

Join Carol Morales, founder of College Success Partners, for a FREE workshop designed to help you write standout college essays.

We'll go over how to tackle different types of essays (like the Personal Statement, UC PIQs, and Supplementals), what works, what doesn't, and how to bring your voice into your writing.

Learn More

FIRST WEDNESDAY
ART TALK

Wednesday, November 5
City Hall Council Chambers | [1400 5th Ave](#)
1:00 PM–2:00 PM

Explore the fascinating artistic connection between Édouard Manet and Berthe Morisot, two pioneers of French Impressionism. This talk delves into how their friendship and creative exchange shaped the direction of modern art, revealing new insights into their influence on each other's work. A perfect program for art lovers and history enthusiasts alike.

Learn More



Wednesday, November 12
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
2:00 PM–3:00 PM

Marin Master Gardeners: Rethinking the Lawn invites you to explore eco-friendly alternatives to traditional lawns. Learn practical methods for lawn removal, discover low-water and walkable green plant options, and reimagine your outdoor space with sustainable, climate-wise design ideas. A great program for anyone interested in creating a more resilient and beautiful garden.

Learn More



Monday, November 17
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
5:30 PM–6:30 PM

TAB is a group of dynamic young patrons who work with the library to make sure the teen community gets what it needs and wants from the library.

We need your ideas, creativity, and service!
The TAB is the place where you can hone your leadership skills and put your ideas to work. Make your voice heard by sharing it with other teens and the library community! You'll make new friends, earn service and volunteer hours, gain experience, and eat pizza. We'll meet every third Monday of the month.

Learn More



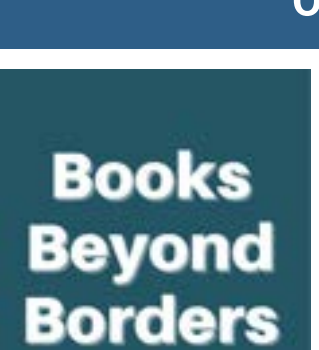
Friday, November 21
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
2:30 PM–3:30 PM

Dogs are ideal reading partners, providing comfort and unconditional acceptance that can allow children to focus better and read with greater confidence. The Marin Humane Society's SHARE a Book program is designed to help children improve their literacy skills, and to offer an opportunity for them to have fun reading – to dogs

Signups will be at the children's desk the morning of the event. Limited spots will be available. This program is intended for emerging readers in grades 1-3 who would love some fun, low-pressure reading time.

Learn More

Ongoing Programs









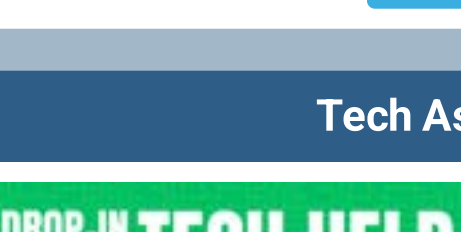


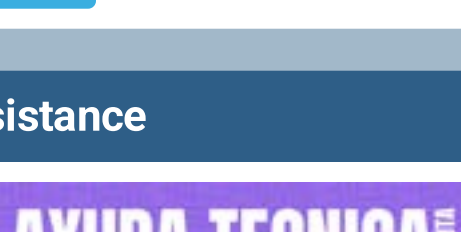




See More

Tech Assistance



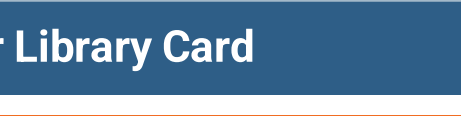






Free With Your Library Card













See More

Need a Library Card?

Don't miss out on everything San Rafael Public Library has to offer. Sign up for your Library Card today!

Get Started

Friends of the Library

Special thanks to the Friends of the San Rafael Public Library for supporting the programming at all San Rafael Public Libraries!

Learn More

Connect With Us











spubliclibrary.org | library@cityofsanrafael.org

Downtown Library
1100 E St.
415.485.3323

Pickleweed Library
50 Canal St.
415.485.3483

Northgate Library
5800 Northgate Dr. Ste. 083
415.890.5670