

SAN RAFAEL

LIBRARY AND RECREATION

CHECK IT OUT

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

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

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

SAN RAFAEL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Every Story Counts: Share Your Love for the Library

Love Your Library is about celebrating the many ways San Rafael's public libraries show up for our community every single day! From diverse collections and inclusive programs to essential resources and welcoming, high-quality service for all. That's why we're participating in Every Story Counts, a statewide effort to better understand how people use and value their libraries, and we want to hear from you.

Reminder: the survey closes on Saturday, 1/31.

There's still time to share your story! The survey has been available all week at San Rafael Public Library locations: Downtown, Pickleweed, and Northgate, and can be completed online via the link below or in person at any library branch.


Whether you're bringing your child to storytime, using computers or Wi-Fi, browsing the collection, attending programs, or simply enjoying a welcoming place to be, your experience matters. You can share quick feedback, a great story, or a memorable moment that shows what the library means to you. Your input helps highlight the everyday impact of our libraries and strengthens efforts to support them now and in the future.

Complete the Survey


Quick Highlights

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San Rafael Public Libraries will be closed on **Monday, February 16th** for **Presidents' Day**.




This year we are partnering with LITA (**Love is the Answer**) to bring joy to folks who don't receive valentines. Come to the Downtown or Northgate Libraries and make valentines to be distributed at a skilled nursing facility for long term care residents.




Stop by the **Downtown and Northgate Libraries** to check out our brand new **Community Seed Libraries**, where you can borrow free vegetable, herb, flower, and native plant seeds for your garden! Plant them, save seeds from your harvest, and return them to share with fellow gardeners.



While the Pickleweed Library is being remodeled, staff will be available at the **Albert J. Boro Community Center's** front desk on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays**, from 9:00AM to 5:00PM for basic services.



Hey teens, there are **free** after school snacks available at the **Downtown Library's** Teen area! Monday–Friday 2:30 PM–4:30 PM. For ages 12–18.



Black History Month recognizes the pivotal role of Black individuals to American history, culture, and society while reflecting on the ongoing struggle for equity and justice. We can show support by educating ourselves, amplifying Black voices, and creating inclusive spaces where everyone is valued. Here are some book recommendations for this month and all year long.

Book Lists

You can now get

eBooks and

eAudiobooks with

ZIP

BOOKS

Your library delivered

Read Here

Program Spotlight



Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)



Film for Tweens and Teens:  
The Lake Merritt Monster

Monday, February 2  
5:30PM–6:30PM



Film Screening and Discussion:  
The Inquisitor

Saturday, February 28  
6:30PM–8:15PM

A 2025 short film by local filmmaker Benjamin Mulholland. Plus, post-screening discussion with the filmmaker, moderated by Diana Sánchez Maciel from the California Film Institute.

The San Rafael Public Library and KQED bring to you this film, which explores the timely legacy of Texas Congresswoman Barbara Jordan who fought for civil rights and adherence to the Constitution.

Learn More

Learn More

CRAFT A

Valentine's Day

CARD

This Valentine's Day, express your creativity through beautiful handmade cards. Come to the Downtown Library, we'll provide you with a variety of paper, crafting supplies and more. You bring your ideas and special elements that you'd like to include in your valentines. Librarian Pam will be your facilitator.

Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)  
Sunday, February 8  
1:00PM–4:00PM

For ages 13 and up

Learn More

CHINESE NEW YEAR

WORKSHOPS

Come celebrate the Year of the Horse with these two hands-on Chinese Calligraphy Workshops where you will explore Chinese traditions and learn about festive symbols.

Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)



Workshop for Children

Friday, February 20  
2:00PM–3:00PM

For ages 7–12  
To sign up, please contact:  
[Margaret Stawowy](#)

Learn More



Workshop for Teens and Adults

Sunday, February 22  
3:30PM–4:30PM

For ages 13 and up  
To sign up, please contact:  
[Bonnie Groshong](#)

Learn More

BOOKAGAMI

WORKSHOP

Learn the art of Bookagami with award-winning artist Adrienne Elggs and transform an ordinary book into stunning 3-D art using simple folding techniques. **BYOB: Please bring your own book to the workshop.**

Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)  
Saturday, February 21  
12:00PM–2:00PM

For anyone 14+. Workshop limited to 12 participants so pre-registration is required. To sign up, please contact: [Bonnie Groshong](#)

BONUS: This workshop coincides with Adrienne's Bookagami exhibit at this library, "Black and White and READ All Over", viewable daily during open hours. Check it out upstairs before you come to the workshop!

Learn More

BLACK

HISTORY MONTH

Join us this February to celebrate Black History Month through two special programs that honor African American culture and history.

Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)



Film Screening: Black Feminist

Wednesday, February 18  
6:00PM–7:00PM

This PG rated film is 52 minutes long, and will be followed with a discussion.

Learn More



Kalimba King: Carl Winters and the African Roots of Jazz

Saturday, February 28  
2:00PM–3:00PM

This program is for all ages.

Learn More

SOBREMESA

LITERARIA

En este club de lectura leeremos libros de autores de todo el mundo hispanohablante y nos reuniremos cada dos meses para tener una conversación amigable.



PEDRO

PÁRAMO

JUAN RULFO

Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)  
Jueves, 19 de febrero | 6:30PM–7:30PM

En nuestra primera reunión discutiremos el libro: **Pedro Páramo** por **Juan Rulfo**. En la Biblioteca Central le proporcionaremos una copia del libro (hasta agotar existencias).

Más Info

Ongoing Programs

Books Beyond Borders

Club de Lectura Sabores Literarios

ESL Club

FIRST WEDNESDAY ART TALK



MARIN MASTER GARDENERS

LEGO SATURDAYS SÁBADOS DE LEGO

STORYTIME!

Zen-tangle

See More

Tech Assistance

DROP-IN TECH HELP @ NORTHGATE LIBRARY

AYUDA TECNICA EN LA BIBLIOTECA PICKLEWEED



Free With Your Library Card

kanopy

Liñgo Pie.





See More

Need a Library Card?

Friends of the Library

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

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

Get Started

Learn More

Connect With Us



[srpubliclibrary.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  
415.850.5670