

CHECK IT OUT

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

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

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

SAN RAFAEL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Local Funding for Library Services

The City of San Rafael is committed to sustaining its public libraries as a hub for learning, connection, and community engagement. The San Rafael Public Library offers programs, resources, and spaces that support residents of all ages, including early literacy and lifelong learning opportunities, technology access, and community events.

For the past 16 years, San Rafael Public Library has relied on dedicated, voter-approved local funding to maintain library services, which is set to expire in June. This funding helps sustain library hours, staffing, collections, youth and adult programs, computer access, and free Wi-Fi across all library locations. Without renewal, the Library would lose more than \$1 million in dedicated funding annually.

The San Rafael City Council [has voted to place a measure](#) on the June 2, 2026 ballot to renew the existing \$74 parcel tax for nine years, with annual inflation adjustments. If renewed, this funding would continue to support after-school spaces for youth, children's reading programs, digital and print collections, technology access, and programs that help older adults stay active and engaged.

All funds would remain dedicated to library services, spent locally, and subject to public audits and resident oversight, with no risk of state or federal redirection.

To learn more, visit our [Funding for Library Services page](#) for FAQs, details on the measure, and more information.

Quick Highlights

31 All San Rafael Public Libraries will be closed on **Tuesday, March 31st for Cesar Chavez Day.**

Thanks to the generosity of our collaboration partners at [Science Is Elementary](#) we are once again offering free bilingual (English/Spanish) **science kits** with all supplies included to have a fun, rewarding learning experience for the whole family. Come on in and take one home during the week of **March 16-20** at the [Downtown](#) and [Northgate](#) branches. Supplies are limited. One kit per child, please.

While the Pickleweed Library is being remodeled, staff will be available at the **Albert J. Bora 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.

March is Women's History Month, a time to honor the remarkable women whose courage, creativity, and perseverance have shaped our world. This month, we invite you to explore our [curated collection of books](#), films, and resources that highlight women's stories across cultures and throughout the ages. Stop by to browse our Women's History Month display and let these extraordinary stories spark curiosity and inspiration!

You can now get eBooks and eAudiobooks with ZIP BOOKS
Your library delivered

Did you know there's a free way to get books and audiobooks delivered directly to your door? Through the Zip Books program, supported by the California State Library, San Rafael Public Library can order titles not available in our local catalog or through LINK+ and ship them straight to your home. When you're finished, simply return the item to the library, where it becomes part of our collection for the whole community to enjoy.

In 2025, the program expanded to include eBooks and eAudiobooks, available through the Palace Project app.

Ready to get started? Visit our [Zip Books page](#) to learn more about the program, explore guidelines, and request your first title today!

[Read More](#)

Program Spotlight

RARE & SPECIAL BOOK SALE

<p>Friday, March 6 12:30 PM–3:30 PM</p> <p>Member Preview 11:30 AM–12:30 PM</p>	<p>Saturday, March 7 10:00 AM–3:30 PM</p> <p>Half Price Sale Starts at 2:00 PM</p>
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Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)

Don't miss this beloved [Friends of the San Rafael Library](#) sale featuring rare and special books published between 1790 and 1950—perfect for collectors, artists, designers, and book lovers of all kinds. Offerings include history, western history, large-format art books, poetry (including local best poets), spirituality, vintage cookbooks, ephemera, sheet music, classic music, classic CDs, and more.

[Learn More](#)

THE LIBRARIANS

Saturday, March 7
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
6:30 PM–8:45 PM

Celebrate National Library Week by learning how librarians face the impact of uniting against library collection standards that include restrictions on race-related and LGBTQIA+ content. *The Librarians* explores the broader implications for education and public life.

Following the screening, this event will include a discussion with a panel of local librarians.

Disclaimer: This film is not rated and may not be appropriate for young children. There are adult themes, references to sexual content, and some strong language.

[Learn More](#)

THE COLLEGE READY SERIES

Wednesday, March 11
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
5:30 PM–6:30 PM

College Admissions Overview: Parents and Juniors, come learn about college timelines, requirements, and key strategies for success!

This step-by-step workshop series helps juniors understand the admissions process, build a strong college list, and prepare competitive UC applications.

[Learn More](#)

Thursday, March 19
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
3:30 PM–4:30 PM

To keep the STEM fun going, come and explore various catapult designs, make a catapult, and learn about the physics of energy transfer. Of course, there will be hands-on testing, which is the fun part!
Best for ages 6–10.

[Learn More](#)

AI BASICS: A TWO-PART WORKSHOP SERIES

Friday, March 13
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
2:00 PM–3:30 PM

Curious about artificial intelligence but not sure where to start? Join us for a free, beginner-friendly two-part workshop series presented by ESCOM (Emeritus Students of the College of Marin). Learn what AI actually is, how it works, and why it's suddenly everywhere in the news. No experience necessary. Bring your own device or use one of ours. All adults welcome to drop-in. Questions or want a reminder? Contact [Javier Morales](#)

[Learn More](#)

PRE-TEENS & TEENS MOVIE NIGHT!

FEATURING: AYER TE VI

Wednesday, March 25
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
5:30 PM–6:30 PM

Join us for a **screening of *Ayer Te Vi*** a 2025 short film by local filmmaker **Miguel Rodriguez**.

A young musician struggles to finish a song as grief, memory, and a mysterious presence begin to blur the line between the real and the surreal. Presented by [CAFILM Education](#) as part of the Filmmakers Go To School Program (Stories by the Bay).

After the screening, Miguel will discuss the film in a conversation facilitated by Diana Sánchez Maciel from the California Film Institute.

[Learn More](#)

Unlock Your Digital Library

Saturday, March 28
Downtown San Rafael Library | [1100 E Street](#)
1:30 PM–3:00 PM

Confused by apps? Not sure where to find free eBooks, eAudiobooks online resources, or digital newspapers? Join us as we go beyond the bookshelves and discover the powerful digital library you can access for **free** with your library card!

This program doesn't require registration, but we are welcome to email [Javier Morales](#) to receive a reminder of the event.

[Learn More](#)

Ongoing Programs

FIRST WEDNESDAY ART TALK

Books Beyond Borders

Club de Lectura Sabores Literarios

ESL Club

MARIAN 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

All Things Apple!

with Beryn Hammil

Most Tuesdays 2:00PM–3:30PM via Zoom

Tech Tutors By Appointment

Free With Your Library Card

kanopy

Lingo Pie. Learn a new language with real TV!

Marin Independent Journal

The New York Times

libby

ZIP BOOKS Your library delivered

[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

sprubliclibrary.org | library@cityofsanrafael.org

<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">Downtown Library 1100 E St. 415-483-3223</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">Pickleweed Library 50 Canal St. 415-483-3283</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.6em;">Northgate Library 5800 Northgate Dr., Ste. 083 415-890-5570</p>
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