Expanding Girls Who Code to All Three Library Branches

Girls Who Code continues to expand their classes at the Santa Clara City Libraries, helping more girls learn how to program. This year, KLA joined AMD, the Soroptomists, and the Foundation & Friends in supporting these important classes. With KLA’s support, the library was able to buy laptops for the classes to use, allowing the librarians who coordinate the classes to choose girls who didn’t have their own laptop (or regular access to a laptop).

Girls Who Code is a weekly class taught by volunteer coordinators from the community. Santa Clara City Libraries have supported classes at both Central Park Library and Northside Library for the past few years. The classes start either in October (Central Park & Mission Libraries) or in January (Northside Library) and wrap up at the end of the school year. Our libraries deliberately echo the school year when scheduling the classes. The additional support and laptops allowed Mission Library to expand the program to the newly renovated branch with more confidence last fall.

“There is a lot of demand in the community for these coding classes,” said Mission Librarian Justin Wasterlain. “We’re happy to be able to offer them to everyone.”

Not only have the girls completed the program and successfully learned how to code, they also give back to the community. Last summer, graduates of the program came back to Central Park Library to hold summer coding classes for younger children; they’ve also organized hackathons aimed specifically at girls, to get more of them interested in coding and engineering.

If you have daughters or other relatives who are interested in learning to code, keep an eye out in the fall for registration!

Recognizing our Major Donors at City Council

One of our favorite activities every year is recognizing our major donors in front of the Santa Clara City Council. It’s great to give them the recognition they deserve for the good they’ve done for the community. A huge thanks to them and everyone who supports us. We couldn’t do this without you!
You Made Librarypalooza 2019 a Success!

Thanks to everyone who showed their love of libraries at our annual Librarypalooza! Over 120 people came out to support and donate to the Santa Clara City Library Foundation & Friends on a rainy February evening. And they really stepped up! We raised over $70,000, partially thanks to a record high number of sponsorships and a record high level of donations from the audience during the raise-a-paddle.

Everyone embraced our Bollywood Nights theme, wearing Indian-themed outfits, and we had Indian food and music and dancers.

We proudly honored Keith Stattenfield, a long-time library supporter and former Foundation & Friends board president. Two fabulous ESL students spoke about how the library has changed their lives.

Our always-popular auction was a success, with the bids going the highest for Mary Hanel's historic walking tour for the second year in a row. We take pride in offering unique Santa Clara treasures in our auction.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and/or donated in honor of librarypalooza in 2019!

Sign up for Summer Reading!

The library supports you and your family throughout the long summer months with the summer reading program. Sign up online or in person to read books, complete activities, and enjoy the library! You could win prizes for reading over the summer.

We’re happy to work with KeyPoint Credit Union and Enterprise on the continuing support of the Summer Reading Program.

Support Your Libraries

- Make a monetary donation – any amount helps!
- Volunteer your time
- Donate your gently used books, movies, and music
- Shop our book sales
- Add us to your will or estate plan

Upcoming Book Sales:

June 1 at Northside Library
June 8 at Central Park Library
June 15 at Central Park Library
July 13 at Northside Library
July 20 at Central Park Library
August 3 at Northside Library
August 17 at Central Park Library
September 21 at Central Park Library

Shop at our Friends Bookstore at Central Park Library or the Book Nook at Northside Library; you can also shop our books at our Amazon store.

Book sales would not happen without your book donations! Please bring your book donations to the Friends Bookstore at Central Park Library. We are unable to accept donations at Northside or Mission Branch libraries at this time.
Classes, Events, and Resources Supported by You

The English as a Second Language Club celebrates holidays. If you or anyone you know is learning English, please join ESL.

You can check out book club kits – 8 copies of the same book and a set of discussion questions for your book club.

We recently celebrated the opening of the new Mamava Lactation Pod at Central Park Library, a place for those who want privacy while breastfeeding.

Comic Con is coming again in October. We’d love to see you there!

Dancing dragons are impressive and one of the most popular parts of the library’s Lunar New Year celebrations.

Book sales support Silicon Valley Reads every year. This year, Paula Madison came to Central Park Library to share her book, Finding Samuel Lowe.

Families enjoyed Shiver We Timbers, a choose your own pirate adventure performed last summer at Mission Library.

A happy girl learned how to cut an apple spiral at one of the health-centric family literacy classes.

Look for Pride events throughout the month of June at the libraries, many supported by bookselling revenues.
Why do you volunteer?

Our volunteers are the lifeblood of our bookselling operation. We would not be as successful without them. Why do they volunteer?

“The Library is my happy place and there is never a dull moment here!”
- Amee S

“To benefit the community.”
- Lind G

“It gives me something to do. I get out of the house regularly and talk to other people.”
- Greg P

“I love being around books.”
- Vibah T

“It helps me connect with people in my community.”
- Priscilla C

“It’s giving back... I like to get books in people’s hands.”
- Anonymous

If you would like to join our group of volunteers, please sign up on our website at lovethelibrary.org!

Mission Library Renovation: Thank You for Your Support

The Mission Library reopened last September, fully renovated, with longer hours, partially thanks to you and your donations. Your support allowed the library to not only open fully furnished, but also to start classes and events and the library.

We raised enough money to allow Mission Library to:
- buy supplies to support storytimes
- provide games for the park
- provide supplies for adult art activities
- host parenting classes
- help seniors continue to be active

Thank you for all your support for Mission Library and the community it’s creating!

[Image of present and former SCCLFF board members presenting the ceremonial check for $193,000 to the City of Santa Clara to support the Mission Library Renovation. Thank you for your support.]

Letter from the Librarian

The Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends enable the library to be nimble, relevant and innovative so we can better meet the ever-changing needs of our communities and rise to the challenges of the future. The funding provided by the Foundation gives the library the opportunity to be more creative, take some risks, and make an even bigger impact on our city.

The Mission Branch Library, after its well-deserved makeover, is open for business, and the library looks beautiful. The Foundation and Friends worked so hard to raise funds for the furniture and fixtures, and their hard work paid off! The library is so appreciative of the teamwork that went into their fundraising efforts. Staff has recently purchased patio furniture and portable play equipment, and it has really activated the space. If you made the community picnic on May 11th you surely noticed just how active it was!

As the need for traditional library service continues to evolve, the Foundation and Friends’ funding helps us shine a spotlight on some of the often overlooked and novel ways our library provides service. We are a dynamic community hub, and our programs connect people and give them opportunities to learn together. The Foundation allows our staff to focus on community issues and priorities, such as, ESL, Mamava, Girls Who Code, and STEAM programming. We believe the library is a vital and noncommercial third space that, with the foundation’s help, is positioned to bring together diverse communities with equally diverse and enriching programs.

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