

CULVER CITY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FALL NEWSLETTER



Message from our President

Happy Fall, Friends!

We have lots happening behind the scenes, and we are excited about what's ahead!

You'll soon see our new Friends T-shirts at an upcoming Pop-Up Book Sale, along with an updated Bookie logo. We're also working toward our long-awaited Endcap Celebration, with more details coming later this year.

Looking ahead to 2027, we're planning a Two Books, One City author event and exploring a fun membership social where members and prospective members can get together, learn more about the Friends, and show their support for our library.

It was also a pleasure to join the celebration of the Japanese Garden's new water wheel and welcome the Kaizuka students and chaperones with special goody bags. We love being part of our community!

Thank you to our Board, volunteers, librarians, members, and supporters for helping make all of this possible. We're excited about what's ahead—and hope you'll be part of it!

If you haven't visited the library lately, now is your opportunity to view the new water wheel and take a peek at the Book Sale Room! Every purchase and membership helps support our library. And that's what being a Friend is all about!

Aileen Zeidman
President, Friends of the Culver City Library

Thank you to our Friends!

We want your input!
Feel free to communicate with us.
Email: info@ccfol.org



Scan here
for our
website!

Spotlight on Digital Library Resources



Did you know about our online collections, available 24/7 with your library card? As a member of our library, you have access to eBooks, Audiobooks, and Magazines through Libby; Music through Freegal; and Streaming through Hoopla and Kanopy.

What is Libby?

Libby is a free mobile and web app that lets you borrow digital ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines from your local public library.

How It Works

With your valid Library card, you can instantly search the catalog, borrow titles immediately, or place holds if a book is checked out. Borrowed items return automatically on their due date, so you never pay overdue fines

Key Features

- Read ebooks inside the Libby app or send them directly to a Kindle device.
- Titles download automatically to your device when you connect to Wi-Fi.
- Enjoy unlimited simultaneous access to popular magazines and adjust audio speeds up to 3x for audiobook

What is Freegal?

Freegal is free, ad-free digital music service provided by public libraries.

How It Works

You log in using your local public library card number.

Usage limits are determined by your specific library. This usually includes a weekly download limit (such as 3 to 5 songs per week) and daily or weekly streaming limits. Weekly counters typically reset on Mondays.

Key Features

- Access to over 15 to 20 million songs, music videos, audiobooks, and thousands of music labels across 200+ genres.
- The entire platform is completely ad-free.
- Users can stream music and download tracks to keep. Downloaded files have no copy-protection restrictions.
- Available via web browsers or mobile apps for iOS and Android devices.

What is Hoopla?

Hoopla Digital is a free digital media streaming service that allows public library cardholders to borrow audiobooks, eBooks, comics, music, movies, and TV shows

How It Works

With your valid Library card, you can borrow between 4 and 10 checkouts per month. The service is completely free and all items are available instantly.

Loan Periods range from 3 days for movies and TV, 7 days for music, to 21 days for audiobooks, eBooks, and comics.

Key Features

- Over 1 million titles, including major audiobooks, graphic novels, and television content from networks like the BBC, AMC, and Hallmark+
- Built-in safety filter that restricts content to family-friendly media

What is Kanopy?

Kanopy is a free, ad-free on-demand streaming platform you can access with your library card.

How It Works

With your valid Library card, you can access the catalog of over 30,000 films, documentaries, classic cinema, and educational series, all completely free for you.

Key Features

- Users receive a set number of monthly play credits for the standard catalog. Kanopy Kids content is unlimited.
- Available on web browsers, mobile apps (iOS/Android), and major streaming devices

Library Initiatives

Recent Programming Supported by the CCFOL



Watercolor Beach

Umbrellas:

Postcards: a serene aerial-view beach scene. For Adults.



Goal Getters:

Handmade mini foosball tables. Ages 5-12.



Adult 101: Paper Bag Journals for Teens:

Journaling to improve wellbeing and encourage self-improvement



Desk-ination:

Pencil HQ: transform cardboard rolls into colorful pencil holders. Ages 5-12.

Upcoming Events



9/16 - Hojalata:
Mexican Tin Art for Teens: explore the art of hojalata (Mexican tin art) in a hands-on program for teens.



9/19 - Home Tweet Home:
Join us as we build and paint colorful birdhouses. Ages 6-12.



9/26 - Maskerpiece in the Making
We'll sculpt a mask inspired by traditions found throughout Latin America. Ages 6-12.



10/3 - Let's Glow Crazy:
Decorate your own rocks using glow-in-the-dark paints. For all ages.



Interview with a Librarian: ZACH NG

What's the most rewarding part of your job?

Helping people find the information they are seeking at the reference desk. Whether it's a book, film, or obscure detail, I find the process interesting and rewarding. Also, guiding people with technology-related questions is something that I do frequently, and it is especially rewarding when they become more confident in using their own mobile devices.

Lately, I have been recommending *The Oregon Trail: A New American Journey* by Rinker Buck. The author humorously explores the historic route in a covered wagon and strengthens his strained relationship with his brother.

Do you have a personal favorite book you love recommending?

Have you noticed any trends in what people are borrowing or reading lately?

Self-help books are a common request. Also, I receive inquiries about literary fiction and books that are similarly contemplative.

That we have time to read at work. We direct the bulk of our energy towards assisting our community members and often that includes conducting programs and library services. There's a lot of effort that goes into preparation, and it is encouraging to see programs so well-received by the community.

What's a common misconception about what librarians actually do?

What programs or services are you most proud of this year?

We have focused on providing impactful digital literacy programs, particularly for older adults. Due to the importance of using technology in daily life, digital literacy programs have been a priority, and we have covered a variety of topics including online dating, mobile devices, and online privacy... These programs offer a dedicated space and time for people to ask in-depth questions that are specific to their individual needs and interests. It is always rewarding to see people take this opportunity to develop their skills and become more comfortable with using technology regularly.

Q

A

Renewal Forms

Culver City Friends of the Library

Membership Form

(Please print)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (check one):

☐ New ☐ Renewal

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (check one):

☐ Student (under 18 years of age): \$5.00 per year

☐ Individual: \$10.00 per year

☐ Senior (over 55 years of age): \$5.00 per year

☐ Sustaining Senior (over 55 years of age): \$15.00 per year

☐ Family: \$20.00 per year

☐ Supporting Member: \$50 per year

☐ Business and Organization: \$100.00 per year

☐ Lifetime: \$200.00

DONATION:

☐ I wish to donate \$ _____

☐ In memory/honor of: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED TAX-DEDUCTIBLE PAYMENT OF \$ _____

☐ Cash

☐ Check payable to the Culver City Friends of the Library

I wish to get involved in the Friends of the Library:

☐ Please contact me at: _____

Please mail or bring this form with payment to:

Culver City Friends of the Library

4975 Overland Avenue

Culver City, CA 90230

(310) 559-1676

www.ccfol.org

Thank you!

CCFOL In Action



Culver City Friends of the Library at the Kaizuka Paddle Wheel Ceremony, sponsored by the Culver City Sister Cities Committee.

The handcrafted water wheel, gifted by Culver City's sister city, Kaizuka, Japan, was dedicated on August 8, 2026, at the Japanese Meditation Garden in front of the Julian Dixon Library.

2026 Friends of the Library Board Members

Aileen Zeidman—President

Laura Jane Kessner—Vice-President

Michael Laase—President Emeritus

Susannah Baxendale—Secretary

Roz Henderson—Treasurer

Steven Wieber—Book Room Chair

Pat Harmon and Sue Wiedem—
Membership Co-Chairs

Kelly Conn—Library Representative

Members-at-large: Wanda Anesh,
Sandy Eliga, Fran Kissel,

Tricia Krause,

Nancy Kuechle, and Marie Romano

