



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
510-981-6100
www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org

June 2006

what's happening here
Newsletter of the Berkeley Public Library

Literacy Corner: Student Profile
Berkeley Reads Adult and Family Literacy

Once again, **Berkeley Reads** would like to introduce one of its outstanding students, Astrid Jerez. Astrid is a native of Chile. She came to America to visit an aunt in 1962. While visiting, her aunt asked her to move to the states and live with her. Astrid accepted her aunt's invitation and moved to America as a teenager.

Quoting Astrid, "As a child I enjoyed reading and writing; but as I grew older my love of reading and writing stopped because I didn't have time. I had to help my mother care for my two younger sisters.

Astrid continued, "I attended high school in San Francisco, California, graduated, and received my diploma. In my twenties I started working during the day and attended school in the evenings. It was at that time that I realized that I needed help to improve my reading and writing skills."

For many years Astrid worked to try to improve these skills. She soon realized that help was needed to overcome her limited reading and writing skills. "I knew that I needed help, but I did not know where to get the help that I needed. So I kept on trying to teach myself to read," Astrid remembered. "Ten years later someone told me about **Berkeley Reads** so I went to the library and made an appointment. On that first visit to **Berkeley Reads** I was given an assessment to assess my reading and writing. Later on I started to work with a tutor one-on-one, and my academic skills began to improve. I am happy to say that I am still trying to better myself by coming to the **Berkeley Reads** program." Astrid has done very well. She is currently a **Berkeley Reads** AmeriCorps member in partnership with the California State Library, the co-facilitator of the West Berkeley Senior Citizen Center Book Club, and a poet and writer. Astrid has learned a lot. **Please keep up the good work, Astrid!**

*Submitted by Jean Shields, Student Advocate
and former Adult Student*

Oprah Funds Teen Book Club!

Berkeley Public Library has received a "Great Stories Club" grant for a book discussion group for teen readers in South Berkeley in Fall 2006.

This book club grant, organized by the American Library Association and the Young Adult Library Services Association, in conjunction with Oprah's Angel Network, provides teens with opportunities to discuss books relevant to challenges in their lives. For more information, go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/currentprograms/greatstories/club.htm>

New Health Database

Berkeley Public Library now subscribes to a new health database. ***Consumer Health Complete*** provides patrons access to many medical books for lay readers, as well as information in Spanish, drug information, and the latest full text articles in medical journals.

BookLetters

Check out ***BookLetters*** on our home page for great reading suggestions for all ages and where every title is linked to materials in our catalog. You can subscribe to email lists that will bring you new ideas of what to read in many genres and information about authors for adults and children, too.

Friday Afternoon Film Series:

Graduation Theme

June's Friday afternoon movies feature a graduation theme. Shows will include *The Graduate*, *In a Class of His Own*, *The Trouble with Angels*, and *Spider-Man*, and two others. All showings are free and begin promptly at 3:30pm, in the Central Library Community Meeting Room (3rd floor), 2090 Kittredge Street (at Shattuck Avenue) in downtown Berkeley. For more info, please call 510-981-6139.

See <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org> at the end of May for details.



**Re-New Orleans Jazz Festival
Berkeley Public Library's
Free, 12th Annual
Jazz Festival Digs Into
New Orleans Roots of
Contemporary Jazz and
Current New Orleans Scene**

Tammy Hall, June 9

In its twelfth annual multi-night **FREE jazz festival**, the **Berkeley Public Library** encourages all comers to explore the New Orleans connections to contemporary jazz, salsa and danzon, while exploring personal connections to what's going on in contemporary New Orleans, now. The four nights and one afternoon of world-class film and performance all take place at **Berkeley's Central Library, 2090 Kittredge at Shattuck, downtown Berkeley. Doors for all events open one-half hour prior to start time.** The line-up follows:

- **Thursday, June 8th, 2:00 matinee AND 7:30 evening screening**

"New Orleans Music in Exile" new two-hour film by Robert Mugge, "king of the American music documentary," on the impact of Katrina on musicians, featuring Dr. John, Irma Thomas, Marcia Ball, Kermit Ruffins, Rebirth Brass Band and more. Community Room, 3rd floor.

- **Friday, June 9th, 8:00 p.m.**

Tammy Hall Quartet featuring Helena Jack

Contemporary jazz Reading Room concert with pre-concert outdoor entertainment (7:15 p.m.) by **Clint Baker's Brass Band**, traditional New-Orleans style street band

- **Saturday, June 10th, 8:00 p.m.**

Charles Hamilton Jazz Ensemble

original contemporary jazz Reading Room concert; BHS jazz director steps up to the microphone

- **Sunday, June 11th, 8:00 p.m.**

Orquesta La Moderna Tradicion

Irresistible Cuban dance music; **Open dance floor** AND Reading Room concert seating

Wheelchair accessible. Sponsored by the **Friends of the Berkeley Public Library**. Yamaha grand piano provided by Piedmont Piano Company. For more information, call **510-981-6100** or connect to <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org>

**Orquesta
La Moderna
Tradicion,
June 11**



The **1st Annual Children's Day/ Book Day** program drew approximately 275 people to the 4th floor Children's Library at the Central Berkeley



[Book Giveaway photo by Anh Vu]

Public Library. The day began with Origami folding hosted by Nga Trinh from BPL's Processing Department. All kids were offered free books. Both performers, the clown Chiquy Boom!, and the musician, Asheba, drew big, happy crowds. Between

sets, patrons enjoyed wonderful fruit and cookies and drew on the sign-in banner to be hung in the Children's Library. Look out for next year's **Children's Day/ Book Day** celebrations in 2007!

Milvia Street Reading on 5/26/06 evening

Readers of both poetry and prose from *Milvia Street*, the Art and Literary Journal of Berkeley City College, graced the Berkeley Public Library's Community Meeting Room with short examples of their work, much of it from issues of the journal. Readers appeared out of the enthusiastic audience of over 80! Here is one of the fine poems by Amelia Chandler-Lewy:

Scarlet Handkerchief

You wear your heart close
guarded in your breast pocket
and you may think
it does not leave
a noticeable lump
but it announces itself
like a leaky pen
or a scarlet handkerchief

thump, thump

Running continuously beside the readers was a fine slide show of art from the latest 2006 *Milvia Street*. Cover art, *Kites over Marina* by Tiago Russo Pinto:

