



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

February/March 2009

what's happening here
Newsletter of the Berkeley Public Library

Playreaders Program at Central Library

Berkeley Public Library's Art & Music Department announces the formation of a **Playreaders** group intended for adults at the **Central Library, 2090 Kittredge (at Shattuck)**. Theater literature is best explored the way it is meant to be performed- out loud- and our Playreaders group will do just that. Participants gather weekly to read plays aloud, changing parts frequently so everyone gets a chance to be the hero/heroine/villain. There are no auditions; all are welcome to read, or just listen. Scripts are provided.

Playreaders meets on **Wednesdays from 12 noon to 1 p.m., in the Community Meeting Room, 3rd floor of the Central Library, beginning February 5.**

The first three plays will explore the themes of injustice, identity and imprisonment. They are Jean Anouilh's *Antigone*, a modern classic retelling of the Sophocles tragedy; Christopher Fry's *The Lady's Not For Burning*, a romantic comedy in verse which pairs a soldier seeking death and a vibrant young woman accused of witchcraft; and the American courtroom drama, Jerome Lawrence's *Inherit the Wind*.

Based on the long-running Teen Playreaders program, this group is intended for adults. Participants are encouraged to bring ideas for future readings- plays are selected by vote. **Please call 510-981-6241 to register** for this free program.

For questions regarding this program, call 510-981-6236. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Berkeley Public Library. **For accessibility information, call 510-981-6195, TTY 510-528-1240, www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org.**

Children's Programs for February/March

Rosie and the Railroaders

Ages 3 and up

Join us for rolling, rollicking celebration of trains through music. Songs, both old and new will be performed at:

Saturday, March 7, 10:30am. Central Library, 3rd Floor Community Meeting Room

Thursday, March 26, 3:30pm. North Branch

Thursday, March 26, 7:00pm. West Branch

Saturday, March 28, 10:30am. Claremont Branch

Celebrate African American History Month

Ages 3 and up

Join us for these special guest storytellers:

Muriel Johnson tells African-American folktales

Saturday, February 7, 10:30am. Central Library, 3rd Floor Community Meeting Room

Kirk Waller tells Tales to Take You Far and Away!

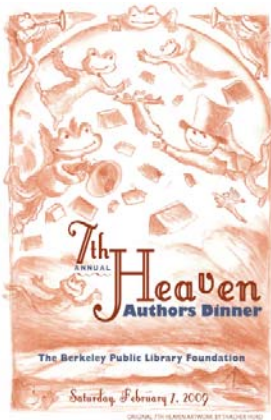
Thursday, February 12, 3:30pm. North Branch

Also see our website for listings for additional events such as puppet shows, magic and juggling, storytimes, and more at www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/children/

Opera in the Library

Berkeley Opera presents a free noontime concert on Thursday, February 19 at 12:15 pm in the Central Art & Music Room. The company's superb singers perform highlights from Offenbach's opera *Tales of Hoffmann*. For more information, call 981-6241.

**Berkeley Public Library Foundation's
7th ANNUAL AUTHORS DINNER
Saturday, February 7th, 2009**



The theme is *Seventh Heaven* for our 7th Annual Authors Dinner in the Historic Reading Room of the Central Library. Composer John Adams joins us as Honorary Chair! 30 honored authors include Vikram Chandra, Leah

Garchik, Anna & Lawrence Halprin, Larry Gonick & The Kitchen Sisters, Davia Nelson & Nikki Silva.

»[See the complete list of authors and their biographies:](#)

http://www.bplf.org/AD2009_authors.html

The Silent Auction features one-of-a-kind items, ranging from a trip to author Georganne Brennan's Provence retreat, a week-long stay in a Paris apartment, to lunch with The Chronicle's Leah Garchik, meals at Bay Wolf, and a tour of the newly refurbished Bancroft Library on the UC Berkeley campus & dinner at Adagia.

»[See details:](#)

http://www.bplf.org/events_auction.html

We are also proudly presenting the Fred & Pat Cody Award to Anna Rabkin, one of the founders of the Library Foundation and visionaries behind the transformation of the Central Library into the heart of Downtown Berkeley!

To rsvp, please submit this [reservation form](#) - <http://www.bplf.org/7thAnnualAuthorsDinnerRSVPForm.pdf> - (& payment) to:

Berkeley Public Library Foundation
2090 Kittredge Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

Questions? info@bplf.org or 510.981.6115

The Berkeley Public Library Foundation's 7th Annual Authors Dinner is preceded by a Gala Reception beginning at 6pm, followed by a Silent Auction and Dinner. The Foundation is expecting approximately 300 guests. In preparation for this event, the following arrangements have been made:

1. **Central Library will close at 5:00pm on Saturday, February 7, 2009.**
2. **The 2nd floor Central Library Reading Room will be closed all day on Saturday February 7, 2009.**
3. **The 2nd floor Central Library Reference Room beginning at 1:00 pm on Saturday February 7, 2009.**

Women Soul and Rock historic filmed performances with Richie Unterberger

To commemorate International Women's Day, Richie Unterberger will be showing rare film clips of women rock and soul performers from the 1950s to the '80s. Included will be clips by Wanda Jackson, Brenda Lee, Françoise Hardy, the Ronettes, Aretha Franklin, Nina Simone, Dusty Springfield, Janis Joplin, Patty Smith, and many others. This screening and discussion will take place Monday, March 9th, 6:30-8:00pm, in the Central Library's 3rd floor Community Meeting Room.

Berkeley Public Library's programs are wheelchair accessible. To request a sign language interpreter, real-time captioning, materials in large print or Braille, or other accommodations for this event, call 510-981-6195 or 510-548-1240 (TTY). At least five working days will help ensure availability. Please do not wear perfumes or scents to public performances. Programs listed in the newsletter are supported by the **Friends of the Berkeley Public Library**.

To join the **Friends** and/or to volunteer, go to http://berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about_the_library/support_the_library.php.