



**BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**510-981-6100**  
[www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org](http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org)

September 2008

*what's happening here*

Newsletter of the Berkeley Public Library

**Berkeley Public Library Completes  
 Branch Building Study and 3-year Service Plan**

The Branch Libraries Facilities Master Plan (BLFMP) project is a physical evaluation, overseen by Berkeley Public Library (BPL) staff and consultants Noll & Tam Architects, of the four Berkeley Public Library branches and the Tool Lending Library to



assess their feasibility to serve the community, both now and into the future. The goal of the project is to develop pertinent facility information and knowledge that will ensure the vitality of library services in Berkeley's neighborhoods; to assist the Board of Library Trustees (BOLT) in strategic decision-making regarding facility expenditures; and to set a course for the future.

Findings from the recently completed process indicate that the four branches of the Berkeley Public Library (BPL) are overcrowded, suffer from structural and infrastructure impairment, and are not ADA-accessible.

Following community input and BOLT approval, the final plans will be made available and discussed with the community at these four community meetings. Join us to hear how your invaluable input was used to develop these two important plans, the **Branch Building Study and 3-year Service Plan**, for the future of Berkeley's public libraries.

- **Claremont Branch** 2940 Benvenue at Ashby  
Thursday, September 18 6:30-7:30pm
- **West Branch** 1125 University at San Pablo  
Thursday, September 25 6:30-7:30pm
- **North Branch** 1170 The Alameda at Hopkins  
Wednesday, October 1 6:30-7:30pm
- **South Branch** 1901 Russell at MLK Jr. Way  
Thursday, October 2 6:30-7:30pm

We also invite you to visit our website to view the completed BLFMP documents, which include detailed analyses of each BPL branch library and suggestions for remedying the problems at each branch.

Just go to [www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org](http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org) and click on **Branch Libraries Facilities Master Plan**. For more information, you may also phone 510-981-6195, 510-548-1240 (TTY).

**Berkeley Public Library Statistics**

**Berkeley is a great place to live!**

Together the **Berkeley Public Library** and the **Berkeley YMCA** are bringing you Healthy...

**Minds!**



29,538 Children  
attended

Berkeley Public Library  
programs last year.

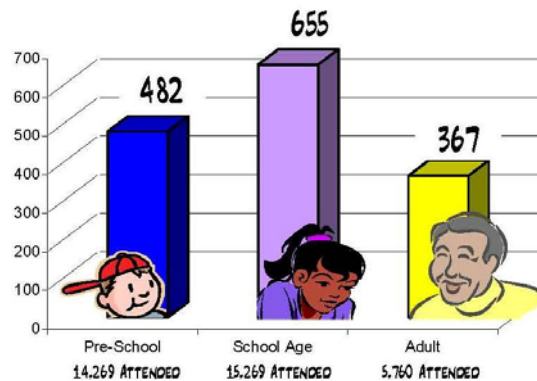
and

**Bodies!**



14,097 Adults  
attended  
Berkeley YMCA  
programs last year.

**Berkeley Public Library Programs  
During 2007-2008**



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**It's Banned Books Week  
at the Berkeley Public Library:**

**September 27 through October 4, 2008**

Fall's coming soon and soon it will be Banned Books Week at the Berkeley Public Library! Come join us at a Public Reading in the Library Plaza in front of Central Library, 2090 Kittredge Street (at Shattuck) in Downtown Berkeley, on Monday, September 29, 3:30-5pm. Books for all ages for readers of all ages! Come celebrate your right to read with us!

*The Children's Department of the Berkeley Public Library* is happy to present several special events this September. Don't forget about our storytimes, craft programs, and knitting circle as well. Go to <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/children/> for more info on our ongoing programs.

**Saturday, September 6, 10:30am.**

**Wild About Books Annual Labor Day Concert with GARY LAPOW!**

It's never too late to celebrate! Join us for a celebration of the American worker with fun folksinger Gary LaPow. Ages 3-7. Third Floor, Community Meeting Room.

On **Saturday, September 13**, Wild About Books will start 15 minutes earlier than normal. We are hosting one of the acts from the **Berkeley Old Time Music Convention**, Evo Bluestein, multi-instrumentalist. This program begins at 10:15am. You won't be able to sit still when Evo comes to town! **Enjoy a mix of Appalachian, Cajun, Blues and Zydeco music by Evo Bluestein**, who plays autoharp, old time fiddle, button accordion, guitar and banjo! \*\*\*This program starts 15 minutes earlier than our regular Wild About books programs, but it'll be worth it! **Fun for the whole family!** 3rd Floor Meeting Room.

**Wednesday, September 17. 2:45-4:00pm**

**Children Chalk 4 Peace.**

Join us for a sidewalk chalk painting event and share your vision of peace! Berkeley Public Library will join locations around the world in helping to repaint the world in the colors of peace. Ages 5 and up. Library Plaza (in front of the library, between the four trees).

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**Sportswriter Dave Zirin**

*Talks about his New Book*

Dave Zirin, "The best young sportswriter in America" presents his new book *A People's History of Sports in the United States* at Berkeley Public Library on Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30-8pm, 2090 Kittredge at Shattuck, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Community Room.

Zirin's book critiques the way sports have been used by people in power to stoke the fires of war, corporate control, racism, sexism and homophobia. In addition, the book offers a riotously entertaining chronicle of sporting characters and dramatic contests presenting an alternative history of the U.S. as seen through the games its people played. "After you read him, you'll never see sports the same way again," says author Jeff Chan.

**BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**STAFF ART SHOW**

They're at it again! Employees of the Berkeley Public Library show off their creativity in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Berkeley Public Library Staff Art Show. The show runs from September 30 through October 27, 2008 at the Central Library, 2090 Kittredge Street in downtown Berkeley. Original artwork and crafts will be on display in the Kittredge Street windows and on the first two floors. The show includes painting, collage, ceramics, quilting, knitting and other unique arts. For more info, call 510-981-6241 or visit [berkeleypubliclibrary.org](http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org). This **free** event is sponsored by the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library.

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**Berkeley Public Library and EastBay Small Business Development Center Present:**

On Tuesday, September 23, 2-5pm, "Successful Business Plans" in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Central Library Community Meeting Room. For any small business owner or entrepreneur in search of a simple and sure-fired way to understand the fundamentals of writing an excellent business plan for their specific business. Advanced registration required: go to [www.eastbaysbdc.org](http://www.eastbaysbdc.org).

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For a Berkeley Public Library program: to request sign language interpreter, real-time materials in large print or Braille, or other accommodations, call 510-981-6107 or 510-548-1240 (TTY) 5 days before the program. Please refrain from wearing scented products to public meetings.

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Programs listed in this newsletter are supported by the **Friends of the Berkeley Public Library**. For information on the **Friends** or to join them and/or for volunteer opportunities with the **Friends**, please call **510-841-5604** or visit [http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about\\_the\\_library/support\\_the\\_library.php](http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about_the_library/support_the_library.php).

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**Look Who's Free2**

"Free2Procrastinate"

- Josh Kornbluth,

local humorist,

writer, actor and TV personality

The logo for 'Free2' features the word 'free2' in a stylized, lowercase font. The 'f' is orange and the 'ree2' is red. The '2' is a simple black numeral.

"Free2Escape" - Ayelet Waldman, author of "Love and Other Impossible Pursuits"

Free2 is for all of us who believe in libraries and their potential to be 21st century community centers of the highest order.

For more information, go [www.wearefree2.org](http://www.wearefree2.org).