A Message From the President

Welcome 2021

As we say goodbye to 2020 and welcome the New Year, I think it is a good time to reflect on the Silver Linings that our Carmel Public Library and the Carmel Public Library Foundation (CPLF) have provided. Even in these challenging times, both the library and the foundation found a way to stay relevant while keeping our families and our community safe and healthy. Due to COVID-19 the library had to severely restrict operations. By quickly pivoting to online operations and curbside pick-up, our incredible library resources remain available to our community. Even though the doors are temporarily closed, the staff is available by phone and email to answer questions and help navigate the online materials. Our Community Night programs, sponsored by CPLF, also pivoted to an online format, giving people an opportunity to safely participate in programs that gave more insight into the struggles we faced in 2020.

Now we welcome a New Year that brings with it a great deal of hope. Our Carmel library and CPLF are committed to inspiring all of us with continued access to library resources and community programs. We are also fortunate to feature the nation’s preeminent presidential historian, Douglas Brinkley in our annual fundraising event, The PRESIDENTIAL Edition, which will be held April 7, 2021.

The Carmel Public Library has long been a place for gathering, sharing ideas, using our imagination and fueling our curiosity by providing access to information and resources. This year, with severely restricted operations, it became clear that for those without internet access, an already difficult situation became even harder. In response to a need for connectivity for all, our vision is to provide an innovative gathering space outside, in the beautiful Harrison Branch Library garden. This will provide an environment that enhances the library experience and accessibility to everyone not only now but into the future. The tables will be physically distanced and have access to the library’s Wi-Fi hotspot to help keep everyone plugged-in and safely engaged. Through the MontereyCountyGives! fundraiser, CPLF was successful in raising the funding required to make this vision a reality. Thanks to all of you who contributed!

Eric Klinenberg stated in his book Palaces for the People, “The future of democratic societies rests not simply on shared values but on shared spaces. Libraries are a place where crucial, sometimes life-saving connections are formed.” We are committed to keeping our community safely engaged and connected. We look forward to the promise of the year ahead!

—Pamela Neiman
New Year ~ Stay Connected
Alexandra Fallon, Executive Director

Thanks to the generous support of our community our library continues to thrive and remain relevant. Librarians are available to help you navigate information, hundreds of books are circulated each week via curbside pick-up, valuable online resources are utilized, as well as free subscriptions to your favorite books and entertainment platforms.

Now, more than ever, individuals turn to libraries for trusted information and critical resources. Every day, Carmel Public Library dedicates itself to advancing information literacy in order to serve our customers’ needs. Librarians recognize how resources based in research and evidence can make a difference and how, especially in crises, that verification is all the more vital.

We look forward to the day we can all gather together again as we miss seeing you in the library and at our programs. Until then, please join us for online programs, stay connected and be well.

Thank you for your continued support!

In Gratitude
Library Director, Ashlee Wright
On behalf of the Library staff, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of our patrons. We are so lucky and proud to serve such a great community. Your kind voices on the end of the phone line and lovely email messages and texts will be what we remember when we think back on this time.

We are happy to be able to continue to provide you with books, audios, DVDs, and all of our online resources. As always, please don’t hesitate to contact us or send someone our way who needs help.

Carmel Public Library is here for you!

SPONSORS & BENEFACTORS:
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100% of the books, programs, materials, equipment and services in the library are made possible by you! THANK YOU.
The Program
Join us Wednesday, April 7, 2021 for a fascinating conversation with acclaimed author, CNN Presidential Historian, and New York’s Historical Society’s Official Presidential Historian, Douglas Brinkley for a look at the highs and lows of the American Presidency; Past, Present and Future — with Professor John Arquilla, Distinguished Professor of Defense Analysis at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Douglas Brinkley is the Katherine Tsanoff Brown Chair in Humanities and Professor of History at Rice University, the CNN Presidential Historian, and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair*. He works in many capacities in the world of public history, including on boards, museums, colleges and historical societies. *The Chicago Tribune* dubbed him “America’s New Past Master.” The New-York Historical Society has chosen Brinkley their official U.S. Presidential Historian. His recent book *Cronkite* won the Sperber Prize while *The Great Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast* received the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award. He has received a Grammy Award for *Presidential Suite* and seven honorary doctorates in American Studies. His two-volume annotated *The Nixon Tapes* recently won the Arthur S. Link – Warren F. Kuehl Prize. His latest book is *American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race*. He is a member of the Century Association, Council of Foreign Relations and the James Madison Council of the Library of Congress. He lives in Austin, Texas with his wife and three children.

Proceeds from the evening benefit the Carmel Public Library Foundation whose mission is to keep the library open, relevant and thriving and to ensure free library service in perpetuity by providing funding for 100% of the books, materials, programs, equipment and services.

Tickets:
- $175 – VIP Admission [link to event] plus one exclusive gift basket containing fine wine, savory snacks, signature library gifts, author’s book and more!
- $65 – [General Admission] [link to event]

Our Sponsors & Benefactors
Receive VIP link for viewing event and one exclusive gift basket.

Contact Information
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What went out in 2020?

Our highest circulating items

FICTION
The Dutch House / Patchett, Ann
The Order / Silva, Daniel
The Vanishing Half / Bennett, Brit
The Guest List / Foley, Lucy
Where the Crawdads Sing / Owens, Delia
All the Devils are Here / Penny, Louise
American Dirt / Cummins, Jeanine
Such a Fun Age / Reid, Kiley
The Henna Artist / Joshi, Alka
Camino Winds / Grisham, John

NONFICTION
The Splendid and the Vile / Larson, Erik
Becoming / Obama, Michelle
Educated / Westover, Tara
The Body / Bryson, Bill
Too Much and Never Enough / Trump, Mary L.
Alexander Hamilton / Chernow, Ron
The Yellow House / Broom, Sarah M.
Caste / Wilkerson, Isabel
Rage / Woodward, Bob
The Blue Zones Kitchen / Buettner, Dan

DVDS
Once upon a time... in Hollywood
Big Little Lies
Downton Abbey
Parasite
The Peanut Butter Falcon
Frasier
The Lighthouse
The Good Liar
Schitt’s Creek

Gingerbread House Fundraiser

A special “Thank you” to Hofsas House owner, Carrie Theis, Marci Bracco, The Buzz PR, Rocket Rerig, Anita Mitchell, and all of the volunteers and attendees who participated and celebrated the holidays with a fun Gingerbread family activity while supporting the Carmel Public Library. Both sessions were filled and the event raised over $1,400 for the Carmel Public Library Foundation!

This is one of the best holiday celebrations on the Peninsula and we are so fortunate to have the support of this partnership and that of our community.

Librarians’ Picks: Hope in Adversity

NON-FICTION
Hope in the Dark: Untold Histories, Wild Possibilities
by Rebecca Solnit

FICTION
The Girl with the Louding Voice
by Abi Daré
Sterling Circle
An invitation to join our Library Legacy Donors

During these unprecedented challenging times, your support of the library is even more significant, as it provides:

- access to technology to someone who otherwise might not be able to stay connected
- families additional assistance as they strive to educate their children online
- resources for fact-based information during a time of uncertainty
- community to address feelings of isolation
- relevant online programs to keep you informed and engaged
- free educational and entertainment resources, and more!

When you support the Carmel Public Library Foundation today, you are ensuring the library will be kept open, relevant and thriving for everyone today and for future generations.

Become a Sterling Circle Donor

Simply inform us of your interest. The amount and conditions of your gift are entirely up to you with any amount being appreciated and completely confidential. To learn more, visit our website at www.carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org or contact Alexandra Fallon at (831) 624-2811. Thank you for your support.

Community Night with the Library
2021 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Check www.carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org for latest information

March 2021
Donor Salute
Celebrating our donors.

April 7, 2021
CPLF Annual Fundraiser
The Presidential Edition
Join us for a fascinating conversation with American Historian and Best-Selling author, Douglas Brinkley, for a look at the highs and lows of the American Presidency; Past, Present and Future — with Professor John Arquilla, Distinguished Professor of Defense Analysis at the Naval Postgraduate School.
Tickets available soon online!

April 28, 2021
Henry Meade Williams Local History Lecture Series Sponsored by the Frank & Eva Buck Foundation and Robert & Lacy Buck
Birds and the Bees – and Bob Dylan
Online Program at 7pm
Join Raphael Payan, PhD, General Manager for Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District as we discuss how the district is doing its part by restoring lands to their former health and beauty.

June 2021
Cozy Read-A-Book Bash
Online Program
Black tie and ball gowns, or pajamas... or whatever you like – An online read celebratory reading adventure!
Sterling Circle
Honoring our legacy members.
Thank you! Your generosity will help fund Connectivity & Access!

Access to powered or charging stations and wifi hotspots in front of our library will help keep everyone plugged in and safely engaged outdoors.

Libraries are a key contributor to social infrastructure.

Support the Library Everyone benefits!