The Youth Services Library at Park Branch, located at Sixth & Mission, is one of only a few dedicated children’s libraries in California. Daily we hear unsolicited praise and gratitude from both young and old Library patrons: ‘it’s a special place’ … ‘it nurtures our children’s dreams and aspirations’ … ‘it is for our children’s children’ … and on!

On behalf of the many children whose lives are enriched at our treasured community Library, the Carmel Public Library Foundation extends heart-felt thanks and appreciation to a tremendously generous couple in the community who recently and anonymously donated a $100,000 leadership gift to the Children’s Endowment Fund. This Endowment supports the Library’s youth services, including programs, materials, collections, computer equipment and database programs offered to the children in our community and beyond. Thank you for your enduring impact!
Meet “Miss Grace”

Youth Services Librarian

Harrison Memorial Library is extremely fortunate to have a dedicated Youth Services Library. This allows us to create for you a lively, energetic, interactive, sometimes noisy and messy, always child- and family-friendly environment and learning experience!

We serve individuals throughout the Central Coast and our Library attracts visitors from all over the world. Families enjoy quality time at Park Branch – not only reading, but coloring, puzzling, playing with stuffed animals, and visiting with siblings, friends, and play groups.

Our Library staff is well-versed in children’s literature, including baby and toddler books, chapter series, books on CDs, young adult and graphic novels, and a wide selection of DVDs. We regularly review children’s literature journals, such as *The Horn Book Magazine* and *The School Library Journal*. These journals provide us with up-to-date reviews of newly published materials.

We help kids and families with Bibliotherapy, an important method where we use books and materials to help children address important issues, such as the loss of a family member or pet, an expected new sibling, family changes, moving, and going to school for the first time.

Yes, being a Children’s Librarian is busy, noisy, terrifically fun, and greatly rewarding!

*—By Grace Melady*

Funding for all of the Library’s collections, programs, and services is made possible through private contributions to the Carmel Public Library Foundation from donors like you.

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Programs for Children & Families

Park Branch, Sixth & Mission

Programs are complementary and open to the public.

Preschool Sticker Craft Time!
* (infants to 3 years old)
Thursday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

Gaming for “Tweens”
First Thursday of each month.

Special Author/Illustrator Visit,
Jim La Marche
Thursday, February 25, 1 p.m.

**Read to a Dog with Maggie & Kasey**
Saturday, February 27, 1:30 p.m.

Family Fun Time
Marylee Sunseri
Sings Irish Songs in Honor of St. Paddy’s Day
Saturday, March 6, 1:30 p.m.

Musical Storytime with Miss Stephanie Brown
(Babies and toddlers)
Wednesday, March 17, 11 a.m.

NEW Family Fun Time
Storytime with Miss Judy
Saturday, April 3, 1:30 p.m.

Read to a Dog with Maggie & Kasey
Returning in April, date to be announced.

Family Fun Time
Special Springtime Craft with Miss Linda
Saturday, May 8, 1:30 p.m.

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An artistic place...
What makes The Children’s Library Special to you?
...direct from our youth patrons!

Q You’ve been coming to the Children’s Library since you were only a few days old. What is one of your first memories of visiting the Library?
A Clifford, the stuffed animal, was my favorite. Maya, age 3

Q You are a serious reader. What books do you like to read?
A Books about trucks. Trucks are very important in my life. Ian, age 4

Q You’ve lived in Carmel since you were born. What makes this community special?
A Miss Grace and Miss Pat and the other library people make the Library special. Elizabeth, age 8

Q As a 12-year-old student and more advanced reader, why do you come to the Library?
A I am homeschooled so I have lots of questions and read lots of books. The librarians help me find resources for my homework assignments. And I get fun stuff to read, too. Christine, age 13

Q I’m curious about the graphic novel and how popular it is with readers like you. Tell me why you read them?
A The pictures tell really cool stories and you just keep going, and going, book after book. Ryan, age 10

Q If you were a children’s book author or illustrator, what kind of book would you create and why?
A I would write fantasy because that is my favorite type of story. Kate, 12 years old

Q Some research cites that children watch an average of three hours of television a day. For all those children spending hours in front of the tube, what wisdom can you share with them about your experiences at the Library?
A When we visit my Grandmom and Granddad in Carmel, they don’t have toys or stuff for kids. And I’m not supposed to watch that much TV. So we come here and stock up for the visit. We always come to the Library when we visit. I love coming here! Gordon, age 7

A place filled with music...
Our Exceptional Youth Services Team

Make a Splash
Summer Reading Program Coming Soon!

Children’s Librarians are well on their way with plans for a terrific Summer Reading Program for young readers of all ages with prizes, entertainment, story times, crafts, music and, of course, good books and events! It’s a great way for children to improve reading skills over the summer and to inspire a love of reading!

This year’s program, “Make A Splash,” will feature maritime topics, such as the ocean, conservation, and interesting topics about water.

Summer Reading activities will include another amazing Puppet Art Theatre production, “Tommy’s Pirate Adventure.” Daffy Dave returns with more of his slapstick gags and giggles! We also will feature our bookmark design contest – an annual community tradition!

If you are interested in funding this important public program, please contact Amy Donohue, Executive Director, Carmel Public Library Foundation at (831) 624-2811 or at adonohue@carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org.

KIDS, Tell your Grown-Ups about these Upcoming for Grown-Ups Only Public Programs

. . . cut out this calendar of events and hang it on your refrigerator door!

Donor Salute!
February 28, 5 to 7 p.m., (831) 624-2811
By invitation and reservation.
Harrison Memorial Library,
Ocean & Lincoln, Carmel

“Gigante,” Movie Night
March 1, 6:00 p.m., (831) 624-7323
Complementary and open to the public.
Park Branch Library,
Mission & Sixth, Carmel

Author! Author!
March 7, 4 to 6 p.m., (831) 624-2811
$10 suggested contribution; open to the public.
Harrison Memorial Library,
Ocean & Lincoln, Carmel

“Horray for Hollywood,”
a new musical revue by Tom Parks.
April 9 & 10, (831) 624-2811
Reception at 6 p.m. followed by performance.
Carl Cherry Center,
Guadalupe & 4th Ave., Carmel

Job Hunting Workshop
April 12, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., (831) 624-7323
Complementary and open to the public.
Harrison Memorial Library,
Ocean & Lincoln

Youth Services, Park Branch Library, is open six days a week, some 247 days a year. Most days or evenings it is filled to the ceiling with young babies, children, teenagers, parents, grandparents and friends—reading books, watching public programs, doing homework, talking with the Librarians or visiting with friends. Come join us!