

**Library Board, Santa Monica Public Library
Secretary's Report
March 2023**

Citywide:

On March 11, Council will be having its annual retreat at the Main Library. Council is expected to select its priorities and provide direction for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2023-2025 Budget: [Agenda](#)

Boards and Commissions have begun to resume in-person meetings across the city.

On February 14, City Council declared a Local Emergency on Homelessness allowing for City leadership to pursue additional local, regional, and national resources.

The City joined the State as it marked an end to the pandemic era by ending its COVID-19 state of emergency ended last month.

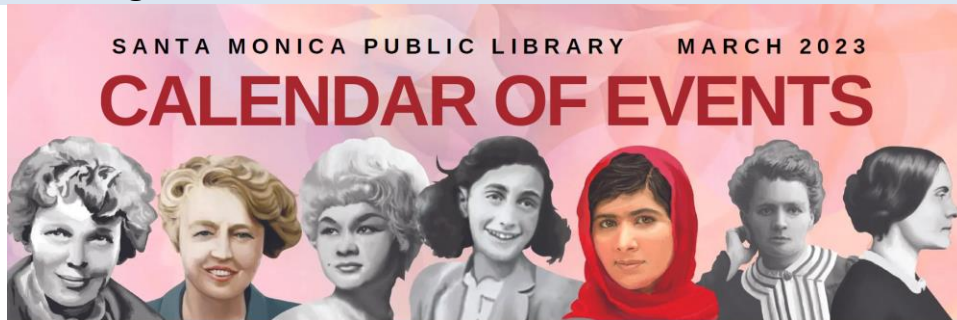
Santa Monica Public Library Operations:

Operations

Main Library Parking Structure

Is now open to the public on the weekends from 3-11pm on Fridays and Saturdays. Thanks to the Department of Transportation (DoT) who was willing to pilot certain hours beyond library operations, so that additional parking options were made available to neighboring businesses. The Santa Monica Police Department and DoT have increased security in the area, including patrols and cameras in the parking structure.

Programming



March is Women's History Month! Visit the Main Library to see a photo exhibit provided by the Library's Image Archives or join one of the many programs taking place. The photo exhibit highlights women workers in the Santa Monica Douglas Aircraft plant during WWII.

Last month, a previous student of the **Adult Education Center ESL classes** obtained her citizenship and returned to class to share her experienced with fellow students.

Computer classes are back once a week! Classes are designed to help individuals get started with using a computer.

This month's **Take & Make** it will introduce children to NASA astronaut Mae C. Jemison, the first African American woman to travel into space about the Space Shuttle Endeavor.

Tuesday Tales Traveling Storytime will host a story time every week in March at a different library location!

March 7: Main Library, Youth Activity Room

March 14: Pico Branch, The Annex

March 21: Montana Ave. Branch, Community Room

March 28: Fairview Branch, Community Room

Last month, the Library honored **Black History Month** and began the night at the Main Library with Capella singers from Calvary Baptist Church. Followed by the screening of the film "We Gather" which contains archival footage documenting the history and stories of Santa Monica's African American neighborhoods and residents.



Library Lovers' Month Stuffed Sleepover had an amazing turnout with twenty children, their stuffed friends, and caregivers attending story time showcasing stories and songs about the library. Stuffedies were left for overnight adventures!

Resources

Library Zip Books Pilot Program – will launch on March 20. Grant funding (limited) has been provided through the California State Library allowing patrons to order materials through Amazon that are not available through the library's collection.

Partnerships:

Friends of the Library - The bookstore is now open on Monday from 12-3pm and Thursday from 3-6pm!

By Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian