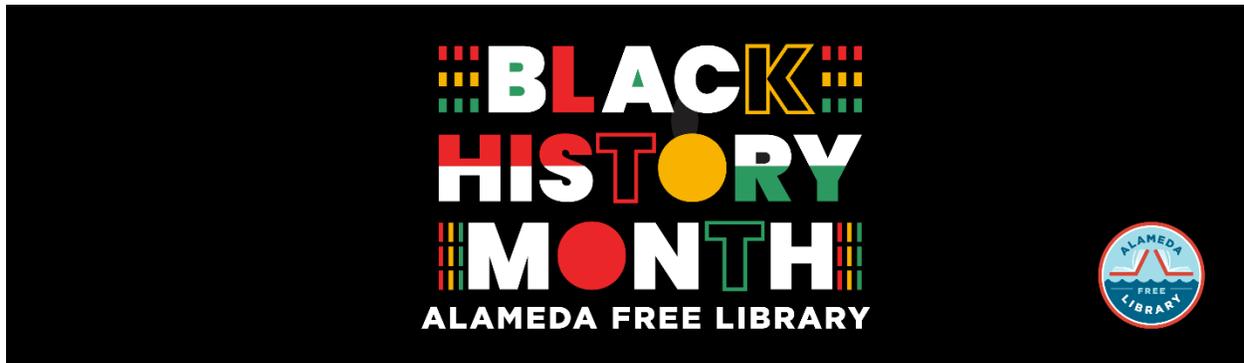




Dear President Amarasiriwardena and Members of the Library Board,

I write to update you on significant activities occurring at Alameda Free Library in January and February 2025 and inform you of future activities.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



The Library celebrated Black History Month with events and book displays.

Author JaNay Brown-Wood visited the Main Library and shared her newest book for children *This Hair Belongs* with those in attendance. She also visited Love and Paden Elementary Schools in partnership with Alameda Unified School District.



In collaboration with the Museum of Children’s Art, the West End Library hosted a program that centered the work of children’s author and illustrator Vanessa Brantley-Newton.

At the Bay Farm Island Library, Constance Moore, illustrator of *Black: The Many Wonders of My World*, led an intergenerational art program where participants created fabric collages inspired by her upcoming book about Black quilter Rosie Lee Tompkins.

Finally, the Main Library hosted a performance by Hannah Mayree, Seraphina Perkins, and Azere Wilson of the Black Banjo Reclamation Project. The Black Banjo Reclamation Project advances African American and Black life through the traditional folk music practices of the banjo.

Lunar New Year

The Bay Farm Island Library hosted a Lunar New Year program at the Leydecker Recreation Center on Saturday, February 7. Participants learned about the history and cultural importance of Lunar New Year. They also made galloping horses in celebration of the Year of the Horse.



Lantern Calligraphy and Plum Blossom Art

On February 19, participants learned to write the character for fortune and decorated their own lanterns to take home.





Celebrating Women in the Community

The Bay Farm Island and West End Libraries will host a series of special storytimes celebrating women in Alameda.

Thursday, March 5, 10:30 AM – Firefighter MacKenzie Cary, Bay Farm Island Library
Tuesday, March 17, 10:30 AM – Alameda Police Department Officer, West End Library
Thursday, March 19, 10:30 AM – Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Bay Farm Island Library
Monday, March 23, 10:30 AM – Naturalist Susan Ramos, Bay Farm Island Library
Tuesday, March 24, 10:30 AM – Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, West End Library

Women in Weaving Workshop

Saturday, March 7
West End Library, 3:00 PM

Local artist Cristina Edwards will lead an inter-generational workshop for people who are at least 7 years old. Due to space limitations, registration is required.

Morning with Tae Poetically Divine

Saturday, March 21
Main Library, 11:00 AM

Join local poet, filmmaker, and cultural worker Tae Poetically Divine in the Large Group Study Room for a screening of her short films and a poetry reading. Registration strongly encouraged.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Eitner
Library Director