



Homework Takes Center Stage at Libraries

Morris Stulsaft Foundation and Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream Foundation award \$5,000 grants to Castro Valley and San Lorenzo Libraries for the homework center program.



Homework Centers are one of the libraries' most popular services. Equipped with a computer, a printer, and a quiet place to study, students are helped by a volunteer tutor. Castro Valley's Homework Center, shown above, is the first center in a series that will hopefully reach every branch within the next two years.

Studies have shown that the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. are a time when children are often left alone and unsupervised. These are the hours during which children and youth are basically "at risk." Many children do not have a desk, a well-lit study area, a computer or the necessary books and reference materials needed to complete homework assignments. In addition, in many dual-income households, parents simply do not have the time to sit down with their children and provide the one-on-one attention they need to complete homework assignments.

It is perhaps not surprising that Homework Assistance is one of the most requested services at Alameda County libraries. In April 2000 the Library partnered with Castro Valley Unified School District in an attempt to answer that need. A Homework Center pilot project was launched at the Castro Valley Library. The basic concept of the program was to provide a place where kids can go after school to get help with homework. Castro Valley started off with just two high

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LINKS Summer 2001

LINKS is a twice-yearly publication jointly produced by the Alameda County Library and the Alameda County Library Foundation. We welcome your questions, comments and ideas. You may send them to 2450 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538-2326 or contact Lara Shuttleworth at (510) 745-1514 or LShuttleworth@aclibrary.org.

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NUMMI values community involvement

Fremont's largest employer supports Library Foundation through annual grant, active board participation

You may not see the connection between an automobile assembly plant and a library, but NUMMI's President and CEO Kanji Ishii believes the two are intimately connected. "A library helps constitute the social fabric of our community and strengthens it by improving the education of its members," he explains. "Our company, just like any business in this community, could not flourish without this essential component." So NUMMI gives back, whether through the relentless personal involvement of its employees or through direct contributions to non-profit organization such as the Library Foundation.

"Education is one of our main areas of focus," explains Jean-Yves Jault, NUMMI's Community Relations manager and current Foundation board member. Since the Library Foundation was created in 1996, NUMMI has appointed one of its employees to the Board



Leading NUMMI team members at a recent Christmas in April community service project in Newark, NUMMI President Kanji Ishii, left, and Vice President Gary Twisselmann spent a Saturday helping a low-income senior clean up his yard.

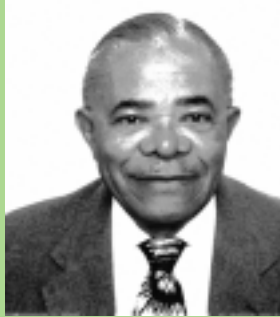
and gives an annual \$5,000 grant to support various programs. "Books have a tremendous positive impact on people's lives, and the Foundation's dedication to providing more library services to more members of our communities goes a long way toward multiplying our contribution," says Jault.

The company views supporting the community as one of its chief responsibilities. It encourages its employees to get involved in non-profit activities, either on their own or during company-organized organized community service projects. Each year, 75% of its employees participate in a United Way campaign which raises over \$650,000. The community is even identified in the company's mission statement as a principal stakeholder, along with its customers, employees and shareholders.



...from the foundation president

Again this year your Foundation is sponsoring the ever-popular children's Summer Reading Program, entitled Galaxy Search. In the summer of 1999, almost 8,000 children participated in the reading program and other activities conducted in local libraries throughout Alameda County. (Did you know that nationally summer reading programs serve more children than Little League?)



Helping children to read is only one way that your many contributions are helping to enrich our libraries in their constant efforts to provide a population of over one-half million with excellent services. Adults comprise about 450,000 of that population, and our library staffs are in constant pursuit of appropriate reading materials - whether to meet the needs of a business person seeking improved methods, a parent wanting helpful child-raising guidance, a young adult learning to surf the net and needing know-how for a new technological purchase, an avid fan of mysteries, an art lover, a senior needing large-size print, etc., etc. - and acquiring such materials takes funds.

So we thank you for your generous response to our direct mail campaigns, requests for grants and for matching funds. Through your caring contributions our libraries are meeting the many and varied demands of our growing and diverse populations.

Internally, the Foundation has been restructuring itself, creating several dynamic committees: Board Development, Resource Development and Finance - all geared towards improved vision planning and implementation. Many of our goals this year are on strategically improving our funding resources. Employment of Lara Shuttleworth in the new position of Library Development Director will provide excellent focus and guidance to Foundation Board activities in this area.

As you read of the Foundation's many accomplishments, please remember that behind those achievements are very dedicated volunteer members of the Foundation Board. We appreciate the many hours they give to our libraries through service on the Board, and we are grateful, also, for Alameda County Librarian Linda Wood whose expertise has led to our successes.

To ensure that our mission of sustaining the finest possible library services remains a reality for future readers as well as excellent resources and programs, we must continue to garner the high level of financial support we receive from caring friends in the Alameda County community. Primary among those responsible for our enhancement of library service, however, is YOU - through your caring and generous donations you are enriching everyone's existence. So, many hearty thank yous, reading lovers, for your continuing support of our libraries.

Charles L. Snipes,
Foundation President

2000: A Landmark Year for the Library Foundation

Fundraising goals exceeded by \$23,000, support vital library programs and collections

Reprint inside right page of annual report pamphlet here

Homework Centers: Dream Becoming Reality

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school volunteers offering homework help between the hours of 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. Math was the subject most students required assistance with, followed by Spanish, English composition, reading, and topic research. After just one year, the project has been so successful that we extended the program to an additional branch, San Lorenzo in March of 2001. In the Fall Albany will begin offering homework help. Homework Centers provide information access, drop-in hours, free homework help, assistance with student literacy, increased self-esteem and supply a technological connection between the schools and public libraries. With the aid of volunteers, students may be tutored, use library outreach materials, receive instruction in using the online public catalog and the internet, along with research assistance.

The benefits of providing students with a safe place to complete homework assignments after school are countless. With both single parents and 2-income households, the opportunity for one-on-one time with adults is often lost. Children need focused attention in order to grow into strong and healthy adults. Positive experiences at the

Library introduce children to a community resource they will rely on for many years to come. By participating in the services offered at the Homework Center, children are more likely to turn in completed homework assignments. This naturally leads to better academic performance.

Special thanks to the Morris Stulsaf Foundation and Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream Foundation, as well as the hard work and dedication of Branch Managers Carolyn Maskovitz and Anthony Dos Santos and staff for making this dream a reality.

Did you know?

the answer is just a click away... your "more than virtual librarian" is available at www.aclibrary.org. Just e-mail your "e-reference" question and a knowledgeable librarian will answer it right away!

Small Grants Go a Long Way

Alameda County Library Foundation's Development Director Lara Shuttleworth is always looking for opportunities to fund programs through grants. Recently, with the help of Library staff members, she was able to apply and receive a small grant for children's services for each of our county's branches.

Fremont Main

\$485 for flannel storyboard and storytelling kits

Niles

\$450 for flannel storyboard, books and easel

Castro Valley

\$350 for beginning reader books

Dublin

\$350 for puppets

Centerville

\$350 for several sets of phonics early readers

Irvington

\$350 for several sets of phonics early readers

Union City

\$250 for 1 performance by Gold Rush Sisters

San Lorenzo

\$350 for board books for toddlers

Newark

\$350 for preschool titles

Extension Services

\$350 for tape listening center and audio books for juvenile court

Grand Total: \$3,635

Senior Services Upcoming Events

Fremont Main

September 12, 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m., Senior Day on the Ohlone Indians.

September 25th, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Family Performance of the same program.

Travel program: the Great Wall of China

This semester, the video will be on the Great Wall of China.

Union City: Sept. 5

Dublin: July 3

Castro Valley: Aug. 1

Albany: Aug. 2

San Lorenzo: July 14

New programs in store for 2001

Reprint back page of annual report pamphlet here

Foundation Grant Strengthens Senior Services



It's a matter of simple demographics: Seniors make up an increasing proportion of the public. It is no wonder programs for seniors are in such high demand, as library staff has been made aware by the occasions of standing-room only and times where library patrons were actually turned away.

As it strives to respond to identified needs which lack public funding, the Foundation contributed \$5,000 to the Senior Services Program. This grant, only possible through unrestricted gifts, will be used to purchase large print books, offer additional travel programs, offer a presentation on the Ohlone Indians, fund an internet literacy program for elders and the purchase of descriptive videos for low-vision seniors.

Alexander & Baldwin Foundation has supported the Alameda County Library Foundation with unrestricted funding since 1997. The nature of their gift allows us to direct the money to a variety of programs and services, such as the upcoming "Distinguished Author Series" and Senior Services. We are deeply grateful for Alexander & Baldwin Foundation's ongoing commitment to our community.

Large print titles for small branch libraries

Part of the grant from the Library Foundation will go towards the purchase of 50 new best-seller large print titles. These will be divided among the two branches which don't have a budget for large print books: Irvington and Niles. The grant will also provide 60 sale copies of older large print titles for other small branches, Fremont's Centerville, Newark, and the Bookmobile.

Internet literacy for elders

Two libraries, Albany and Fremont Main, will receive access to "Generations On Line," an on-line software access service aimed at familiarizing elders (over 65) with using the internet. The software,

Take Note

Music in the Library. What a great concept! This program, funded by a grant from US Bank, is an opportunity to meet each section of the Fremont symphony orchestra, hear your favorite instrument, talk to the musicians who play them, and take home some great books about music and the orchestra. All programs will be at 7 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library.

**October 3, 2001.
Fog City Winds**

**October 24, 2001.
Supercussion**

**November 14, 2001.
West London String Quartet**

**December 12, 2001.
Golden Gate Brass**

developed by a non-profit organization, provides a self-teaching program of free e-mail, a multilingual search function, an intergenerational chat with school children about the past, and hot links to popular internet sites.

Programs on Ohlone Indians

This fall, the Fremont Main Library's now popular Senior Days will welcome a presentation by (archeologist name) on the Ohlone Indians. This will include folklore story telling and a demonstration of making an arrow head.

Dates: September 12, 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. for seniors, with a repeat performance from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on September 25th, at the Fremont Main Library.

Quality travel videos for Senior Day Programs

Seniors who attend these programs have come to expect well-narrated, interesting films with some historical background. About 25 new titles will complement the current collection.

Descriptive videos for low-vision and blind users

The grant will provide 30 new titles to supplement the Library's small collection housed at Fremont Main. Among the newly purchased videos will add description to older classic movies that are very popular with seniors.

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Library Foundation**

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Donor event raises \$4,700

A Library foundation Board Member since 2000, Dr. Dharam Salwan hosts dinner at his home for the enjoyment of nearly 100 guests and for the benefit of library services.

We all have a reason to contribute to libraries. For Kailash Babbar of Danville (top left photo, on the right), libraries allows children who go to college to do their research. For that reason, and several dozen others, Dr. Dharam Salwan, a Foundation board member since 2000, organized a convivial fundraising event at his home in Fremont. Fremont Mayor Gus Morrisson, (insert other dignitaries names here) honored the evening of their presence.



Events calendar

July 17th-Crackers the Clown
Dublin 2 p.m.

July 20th-Job Seekers Tour-
Fremont Main 7-8 p.m.

July 20-22nd Booksale
Fremont Main

July 26th Nick Barone Puppets
Union City 7:00 p.m.

July 27th Preschool Film Festival
Fremont Main 11:30 a.m.

July 31st- Debra Knox Sing Along
Dublin 2 p.m.

August 4th Health Screening
Dublin 12-2 p.m.

August 8th Poetry Writing Workshop
Albany 7:00 p.m.

August 17th Preschool Puppet Show
Fremont Main 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.

September 22nd Friends Booksale
Union City 10:00 a.m.

September 25th Ohlone Indians family
cultural presentation
Fremont Main 7- 8:30 p.m.

October 24th Halloween Magic Show
Fremont Main 4:00 p.m.

October 27th-Gold Rush Sisters
Union City 1:30 p.m.

November 3rd Liberty Sisters
Union City 1:30 p.m.

November 14th Poetry Workshop
Albany 7:00 p.m.