



OFF THE SHELF

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Photos Courtesy of Elaine Joe & Echa Schneider

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

East Oakland Community Library Grand Opening	1
81st Ave Library - Photo Tour	2
State Budget & Our Libraries Bookmark Spring Sale Giving	3
Membership Form	4

MORE THAN 1,000 PATRONS VISIT 81ST AVE. EAST OAKLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY ON OPENING DAY

Author: OPL Community Relations

The opening of the new 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library was met with rousing fanfare on Saturday, January 29, 2011. Mayor Jean Quan, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Oakland Council President Larry Reid, State Assemblymember Sandre Swanson, and a host of other local and state dignitaries came, made speeches, and demonstrated obvious pride in the achievement. Police Chief Anthony Batts was MC.

Much more importantly, more than 1,000 members of the community showed up to visit the public library for which they have waited so long. If Saturday is any indication, the new branch will be among the OPL's most popular.

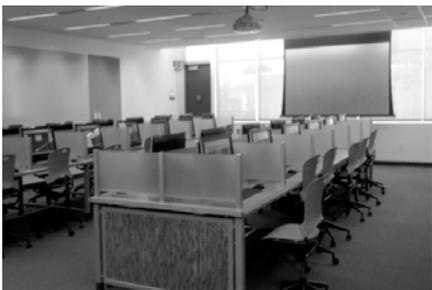
On opening day, from about 1 to 5:30 pm, more than 200 new library cards were issued at the branch. Some 1,325 books, CDs, and DVDs were checked out.

All are welcome to visit this beautiful, state-of-the-art library, the largest branch in the OPL system. The 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library is located at 1021 81st Ave., at Rudsdale. The phone number is 510-615-5812. The branch is open Tues 11:30-7, Weds 10-5:30, Thurs 10-5:30, Fri 12-5:30, Sat 10-5:30; closed Sun & Mon.



PHOTO TOUR OF THE NEW 81ST AVE EAST OAKLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY ON OPENING DAY

Photos: Elaine Joe & Echa Schneider



STATE BUDGET: WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR LIBRARIES?

AUTHOR: OPL COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Governor Brown's January Budget proposes a staggering \$30.4 million in cuts to public library programs. According to the California Library Association (CLA) the proposed budget eliminates state funds for the Public Library Foundation, Transaction Based Reimbursement and the California Library Literacy program.

The most unnerving part of the Governor's proposal is that it recommends total and complete elimination of three important library programs and jeopardizes federal funding for California library services. According to Library Director Carmen Martínez the impact on Oakland would include:

- Loss of \$65,000 per year in state funding for the Second Start Adult Literacy program.
- Loss of \$150,000 per year in Public Library Foundation funds which help support OPL's public relations, staff development and other miscellaneous expenses not covered by the city budget.
- Loss of funding for state and regional resource sharing programs such as Interlibrary Loans and Transaction Based Reimbursements.

Since the release of the Budget, CLA has been meeting with key legislators and staff to make sure that Library issues are considered so that the consequences of the loss of these programs can be revealed and debated. CLA acknowledges the severity of the current budget crisis but also points out that library usage has increased during the recession as California residents turn to their public libraries for information and resources.

If you would like to learn more, or register your support for maintaining these important library programs, visit the CLA's website at www.cla-net.org. Regular updates on legislative hearings are posted on the CLA's blog at www.cla-net.org/weblog/

For related news about the Oakland Public Library's budget and local funding sources see "Measure Q and You" in the July/August 2010 edition of Off the Shelf, available online at www.fopl.org, click on the Newsletter tab.

BOOKMARK SPRING BOOK SALE

Mark Your Calendar for the Spring 2011 Friends of the Oakland Public Library Book Sale, April 7-10, 2011.

50% OFF for members only on "Members' First Choice" Sale Day Thursday, April 7th (non-members can join FOPL that morning)

And for all book lovers:

- 30% OFF – Friday, April 8
- 40% OFF – Saturday, April 9
- 50% OFF – Sunday, April 10

Most of the store's 17,000 books are \$2-\$6.

Hours: 10:30 am – 5:30 pm each day during the sale.

The Bookmark Bookstore, 721 Washington St. in Old Oakland, is operated by the Friends of the Oakland Public Library.

Join the Friends' e-news mailing list for special notices! Send an email to: bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com (Subject: e-news). For information, call (510) 444-0473.



GIVING

FOPL is grateful for the following donations received through February 2011:

- In memory of **Fred Bloebaum** from Chris Sinn
- In memory of **Burke Conley** from Anonymous
- In memory of **Anne Rosenbaum** from Neshama Franklin
- In memory of **Alice Collings Ward** from Wilfred H. Ward
- In honor of **Tom and Winifred Walters** from Jane Gilden

Peet's Coffee and Tea for brewed coffee service for the annual Bookmark Bookstore Volunteer Appreciation event.

Trader Joe's on College Avenue, for providing healthy snacks for children attending programs at the newly opened 81st Ave. Branch library.



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If your membership has expired,
PLEASE RENEW NOW!

More ways to support the Friends...

- Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization - 800 strong - dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library.
- Donate your gently-used books, CDs and DVDs to the Bookmark Bookstore. Call (510)444-0473 for more information.
- Do you have a few hours per month? Visit www.fopl.org or call (510)444-0473 to learn more about volunteering.
- Donate your Vehicle. Charity Connection, a service of Volunteers of America, will sell your vehicle, and contribute a portion of the proceeds to FOPL. Call (800)559-5458 and be sure to mention that your tax-deductible gift is for the Friends.

JOIN US

Yes, I want to show my support for the Friends of the Oakland Public Library!

Enclosed is my check payable to FOPL for \$ _____

___ New (1 year membership) ___ Renewal (1 year membership)

___ Donation (\$ _____ in addition to my membership dues)

Supporting Membership Levels:

___ \$1000 Book Angel Name(s) _____

___ \$500 Bibliophile _____

___ \$250 Book Conservator Address _____

___ \$100 Book Worm City/Zip _____

___ \$50 Book Friend Gift in Honor/Memory of _____

Basic Membership Levels:

___ \$35 Family/Household

___ \$25 Individual

___ \$15 Senior (65+)/Student

Email _____

(Sign me up for **email** notices of Bookmark Bookstore news)

Contributions are tax deductible (Tax ID #94-2553734)
Make your Credit Card donation online at www.fopl.org
Call (510) 238-6932 for membership information.