



# THE FOPABL HOOT

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO HOOT!



Vol. 1 No. 9

June 15 2018

## WE DID IT! Measure D Passes!!

“The Oakland Public Library is grateful for the passage of Measure D and staff look forward to serving more people in welcoming environments that better meet their needs”

*Jamie Turbak, Interim OPL Director*

“I am so happy that the library will have the funds to extend hours so that everyone will have better access to all the library has to offer, especially the children.”

*Victoria A. Barbero, Chair, Library Advisory Commission*

“Longer hours and open doors at all Oakland Public Library locations mean more access for the Oaklanders who need it most -- those who can't afford books, other materials, computers, Internet access or even homes. I'm so grateful to everyone who supported Measure D and expanded access for all.”

*Kathryn Sterbenc, President of the Friends of the Oakland Public Library*

In case you haven't heard -- Measure D to protect Oakland libraries passed with flying colors on June 5 with more than 76% of Oakland voters casting a **YES** vote for the library.

The passage of Measure D means:

1. · all branches can stay open
2. · hours can be extended throughout the system
3. · the deficit is covered
4. · programs many Oaklanders count on will continue

Thank you to members of the Friends of the Oakland Public Library, members of individual Branch Friends groups (that's us!), members of SEIU 1021 and IFPTE 21, library staff (current and retired), members of the Library Advisory Commission, and the Coalition for the Oakland Public Library who formed the core of this campaign. A list of endorsers and donors is available at:

<https://www.protectoaklandlibraries.org/>.

And a very special thank you to campaign co-chairs Victoria Barbero and Kathryn Sterbenc who provided amazing leadership as the campaign moved toward victory, as well as Interim Library Director Janie Turbak who seemed to be everywhere – phone banking, organizing volunteers, tabling, walking precincts, fund raising, obtaining endorsements, speaking to community groups – she was involved in every aspect of this campaign.

Remember -- there are exemptions for very low-income households and for low-income [senior](#) households available. More information and the form to use to apply for these exemptions will be available at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/planning-and-building-index/property-tax-special-assessment-refund> after the election has been certified.

Thanks everyone. It was a great day for the city!!

**Going forward.** Now that Measure D has passed, The Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library are concentrating on obtaining a permanent location for our branch. The plan is to start holding meetings in the early Fall to discuss options. If you would like to be involved, please send your contact information to [contact@fopabl.org](mailto:contact@fopabl.org).

### Search for the New Library Director

The top job for Oakland Public Libraries -- Director of Library Services -- is open now after the retirement of Gerry Garzon in March.

Jamie Turbak has been the Acting Director for the last months, and The Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library are advocating that she be appointed as permanent Director. Those of us who worked on the Measure D campaign saw her in action and witnessed her leadership and her commitment to Oakland Public Library. During her career at OPL she has exceeded expectations as a library assistant, children's librarian, branch manager at the Piedmont Avenue Branch, supervising librarian, associate director, and now acting director. Jamie understands OPL and our city, flaws and all, and will hit the ground better prepared than any other candidate.

The City of Oakland has engaged The Hawkins Company, an Executive Search firm, to assist in identifying and recruiting candidates. They are asking what qualifications, qualities, and characteristics people want to see in their ideal candidate for the new Director of the Oakland Public Library.

You can use this online survey to provide input: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OPLDirector>.

### Summer in the Library



You don't hear kids who live near Piedmont Avenue Library saying "There's nothing to do" these days. The range of summer activities the Library offers has something for everyone. And they don't always happen at that site.

For instance: want to go to a Oakland Athletics Baseball home game? The library has the tickets. Children who ask the librarian will receive four vouchers they can exchange at the

ball park for tickets to the game. Adults can get two.

Another thing you won't get anywhere else is the new library card honoring the Oakland Warriors basketball team. Better pick yours up soon, they won't last long.

Not interested in sports? There are plenty of other choices, too. The summer reading program, for instance. How many books can you read during summer vacation? The library will give you a chart to put a sticker on every time you finish one. This program is for adults, too, so maybe a family could have its own contest. The library will give prizes to those who read the most.

Then there's the other stuff. Every Thursday at 3:00 pm, all summer, there'll be an opportunity to explore the lives of insects, make art, have scientific adventures and meet new animals. On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, a park naturalist can tell you what animal you heard or smelled last night and what kind of animal it was that left poop on the lawn.

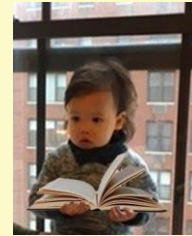
Like to build? Build/Make/Play days are Tuesdays at 6:00 pm.

As you can see, there's no excuse for being bored this summer. Head for the library and find something to read, make, do or explore. Have a great vacation.



## The Owlet Recommends

**I Am a Big Brother**  
by Caroline Jayne Church  
&  
**Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**  
by Grace Lin



Dear Fellow Readers,

I would like to share with you my experience of having labored through, cover to cover and multiple times, ***I Am a Big Brother*** by Caroline Jayne Church, published in August of 2014. This review would have been a more timely reaction to Church's work, but I was not yet born when this book first appeared.

To begin with the positives, this is a sturdy board book. The pages do not tear easily. I can chew the edges, and so far the book has withstood several months of regular use. The illustrations are quite attractive - colorful, simple and filled with objects from my own life, many of which my dad knows how to say out loud while pointing.

The subject matter, however, and the book's core message deserve some critique from a person like me, with lived experience. I myself became a big brother very recently, and I have been disappointed to learn that Church is actually a liar. Things she describes in her book do not happen. I have not been invited to help feed the baby, and I have never been able to find any of the things that baby needs and bring them to my mommy as the book pictures, especially in the new level of mess our home has become. In fact my own feeding and things *I* need seem to have fallen to grandma while my parents are sucked up with this very demanding and un-fun baby.

I would like to point out that while Church devoted two entire pages of this fake-news book to the celebration of being quiet around baby, reality teaches that keeping quiet is a hopeless thing for big brothers everywhere. How can she say that?

I hope that your local library has categorized this book as fiction/fantasy.

I give it one star out of three, mostly because that is how high I can count.

Sincerely,

Shem Nguyen-Weiner  
New York, NY  
Age 22 months

### **Recommendation from Margaret Rordriquez, Children's Librarian**

***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*** is the first book in Grace Lin's beautifully illustrated adventure trilogy based on Chinese mythology. It's perfect for grades 3 and up, and adults enjoy it too -- it's a lovely book to read aloud with your children or grandchildren.

What the readers say:

I think kids should read *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*. It's about a girl who believes an old story, so she sets out on a journey to see if the story is true. She meets a lot of friends and enemies on the way. It is interesting.

From Aida Ndiaye, age 9.

## What's Happening at the Library

### Ongoing Events

**Tuesdays at 6 pm - Summer Kids Events!**  
**Wednesdays at 10:15 am – Toddler Storytime**  
**Wednesdays at 11:00 am – Pre-School Storytime**  
**Thursdays at 3 pm – Summer Kids Events!**  
**Fridays at 3:30 pm – Build Fridays**  
**Saturdays at 10:30 am – Baby Café**  
**Saturdays at 2:30 pm – eBook Help**



### Events in June & July

**Thursday June 28 at 3 pm - Upcycle with Circus of Smiles**  
Plan, measure, cut, test, and redesign with recycled materials. Build circus props to take home with you. Circus of Smiles will lead students through building projects like making poi and juggling balls and teach tricks to practice and perform at home. Come to the Upcycled Circus to flex your maker skills and your creativity muscle!

**Tuesday July 3 at 6 pm - Skewer Engineering**  
Use skewers and clay to create your own structures. The sky's the limit!

**Tuesday July 10 at 6 pm - Bubble Party**  
Celebrate summer with bubbles big and small!

**Thursday July 12 at 3 pm – Jellyfish Craft for Kids**

**Thursday July 12 at 3:30 pm – Henna for Teens!**  
Learn about the ancient art of henna at the library this summer! Henna tattoos are temporary, but can last up to 8-10 days.  
A permission form signed by a parent/guardian is required for this workshop. Pick one up at your local library or email us at [teensatopl@gmail.com](mailto:teensatopl@gmail.com) to ask us to send one to you.  
(Ages 12-18)

**Thursday July 19 at 3 pm - Scientific Adventures**  
Explore tower escapes; build zip lines, parachutes and more with local scientists.

**Thursday July 26 at 3 pm - Fur, Scales and Tails Animal Show!!!**  
It is Summer Reading so it is time for an animal show! *Fur, Scales and Tails Animal Show* will be bringing Guinea Pigs, Rabbits, Tortoises, Lizards, Snakes, Baby Chicks, Frogs, and more to the Library! Guaranteed to be a hit for both kids and adults!

**Tuesday July 31 at 6 pm - Cardboard Creatures**  
Make a sweet or scary creature and a wardrobe of clothes, socks, shoes, and hats to keep it looking good.

**All these activities and events take place at the Piedmont Avenue Branch  
80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611  
Ongoing Events**



[fopabl.org](http://fopabl.org)

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