



**BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**510-981-6100**  
**[www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org](http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org)**

**January 2009**

*what's happening here*  
Newsletter of the Berkeley Public Library

***Photographer Susan Louie Starts  
A Business with Help from  
A Free Berkeley Public Library Program***

The public library offers a wealth of free services to anyone daring enough to attempt to start a business in these difficult times.

Berkeley teacher and photographer Susan Louie lived and worked in the south of France, learning to apply the compositional techniques of the greater painters to her art, and always using traditional film rather than digital equipment. Returning home, she decided to use her talent to start her own business as a wedding and special-events photographer.

The library helped her to make the leap from artist to entrepreneur when she met with Murray Schlüssel, a volunteer from the Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE). "Our meeting inspired me to persevere in my business," notes Louie. He helped her form a sound financial plan, suggested ways to use her contacts in the artistic community as solid business leads, gave her advice on writing simple contracts, and, most of all, encouraged her to launch her business.

Since then, Ms Louie finds that running a business has confirmed her belief that creativity is essential to any enterprise. To that end, as she continues her business, she also offers classes on the creativity process in the Bay Area, and in the Spring of 2009 she plans to teach internationally. She has also started her own foundation to promote human creativity in its many forms.

If you are bold enough to dream of starting your own business, call the library at (510) 981-6148 to make an appointment for your own life-changing talk with Murray Schussel. And to see just what your talk might lead to, take a look at [www.susanlouiephotos.com](http://www.susanlouiephotos.com).

**Tom Dufour, Reference Librarian**  
\*\*\*

***Teen Comic Drawing Club @West Branch***

Thursday, January 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2009  
4 – 5:30pm

***West Branch, 1125 University Ave., Berkeley***

Teen comic drawing club.

For more information call 510-981-6270

***Vacancy on Berkeley Public Library's Board of  
Library Trustees***

Berkeley Public Library's Board of Library Trustees will have a vacancy. If interested, please look at the Application and Supplemental Questionnaire for the position by calling the City Clerk at (510) 981-6900 or going to <http://www.cityofberkeley.info/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=9902>. Deadline is January 12, 2009, and Berkeley residency is required.

\*\*\*

***Save the Date: Magic, Juggling, and Storytelling  
with Bob Kann***

Bob Kann returns with his highly entertaining show, "Read! Read! Read! It's Magic!!!" See him Wed Feb. 4, 3:30 at Claremont Branch; Fri Feb. 13, 2:00 at South Branch; or Thurs Feb 19, 6:45 pm at West Branch. For ages 6 and up.

\*\*\*

***Fundraising Planning Workshop***

Thursday, January 29, 2009, 3:30 – 5pm

Central Library 3<sup>rd</sup> fl. Community Meeting Rm.

For nonprofit organizations: come to a class taught by staff from the Foundation Center. Learn to prepare a fundraising plan and calendar, identify fundraising partners, and more. For more info, call 510-981-6148.

\*\*\*

***Dear Delhi and Rajasthan:  
Street Photography of India***

Berkeley-based photographer, Iona Sturm, exhibits black and white custom prints from her "street photography" series *Dear Delhi and Rajasthan* at Berkeley Public Library's Central Catalog Lobby, 2090 Kittredge. Sturm's street photography explores the landscapes, politics, human gestures, and vernacular lifestyles of contemporary urban India. The exhibit runs through January 4, 2009. More info: 981-6241.

\*\*\*

***Business Law @Central Library  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor Community Meeting Room***

Tuesday, January 20, 2009, 2 – 5pm

Legal and Business Issues for small-business owners taught by the **East Bay Small-Business Development Center (EBSBDC)**.

***Friends of the Berkeley Public Library  
Bookstore News***

The Friends of the Library are expanding their Sather Gate Bookstore, 2433 Channing Way, in the mall, just below Telegraph Ave. They'll have twice the room, twice the books, and twice the deals. Details:

- The Friends' Sather Gate Bookstore will be closed from December 22, 2008, through January 12, 2009.
- During that time, library patrons should bring all book donations to the Central Library.
- A Grand Re-opening celebration for the Friends' Sather Gate Bookstore is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2009. More information will be available closer to that date.

\*\*\*

***Berkeley Public Library  
Wishes You a Happy New Year!***

Programs listed in the newsletter are supported by the **Friends of the Berkeley Public Library**. To join the **Friends** and/or to volunteer, go to [http://berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about\\_the\\_library/support\\_the\\_library.php](http://berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about_the_library/support_the_library.php). Programs are wheelchair accessible. To request a sign language interpreter, real-time captioning, materials in large print or Braille, or other accommodations for this event, call 510-981-6107 or 510-548-1240 (TTY). At least five working days will help ensure availability. Please do not wear perfumes or scents to public performances.

\*\*\*

***Knitting Hour @ North Branch***

Saturday, January 10, 2009,  
3:30 – 5:30pm

***North Branch, 1170 The Alameda, Berkeley***

Knit along with us at the North Branch! All ages and skill levels welcome! Learn how to knit (beginners should bring #8 bamboo needles and a skein of wool yarn. Some supplies available.) Great time to catch up on project or revive old skills. Be inspired by others or find a solution to a long standing problem project.

\*\*\*

***Berkeley Reads Tutor Training @ Central***

Saturday, January 24, 2009, 10am – 4pm

***2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley, CA 94704***

This is held in the 3rd floor Electronic Classroom. Please call 510.981.6299 to request more info or drop by *Berkeley Reads Adult Literacy Program* office - 1125 University Ave near San Pablo Ave. inside the West Branch.

***Bridge of Sighs Discussion @North Branch***

Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 6:30 – 7:30pm

***North Branch, 1170 The Alameda, Berkeley***

Join us for a discussion of Richard Russo's *Bridge of Sighs*.

\*\*\*

***Computer Class for Beginners @Central Library***

**WHEN** Thursday, January 8, 15, 22, & 29,  
2009, 10 – 11am

**WHERE** Central Library  
2090 Kittredge at Shattuck  
3rd Floor, Electronic Classroom  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Free, Drop-In Classes - Relaxed  
Atmosphere - Self-Paced  
Learn how to use the mouse, use the  
keyboard, set up e-mail and search  
the internet. More info: call 981-6148

\*\*\*

***Knitting Hour @ West Branch***

***West Branch, 1125 University Ave., Berkeley***

Saturday, January 17, 2009, 3:30 – 5:30pm

All skill levels welcome. Join others who love to knit. Learn to knit, solve a long-standing problem, or finish that project you've been putting off. For those who want to learn, it is recommended that you bring size 8 bamboo needles and a skein of wool. For more information, call 510-981-6270.

\*\*\*

***Claremont Non-Fiction Book Discussion Group***

**WHEN** Thursday, January 15, 6:30 – 8pm

**WHERE** **Claremont Branch**  
**2940 Benvenue Ave.**  
**Berkeley, CA 94705**

The Claremont branch non-fiction  
book discussion group is back in  
session. Join us as we read and  
discuss **“The House at Sugar  
Beach: In Search of a Lost African  
childhood” by Helene Cooper.**

\*\*\*

***Housing Counselors from Berkeley Rent Board  
Central Library, 2nd Fl. Berkeley History Room***

Saturday, January 10, 2009, 11pm – 12am

Housing Counselors from the Berkeley Rent Board will offer free, one-on-one counseling sessions, assisting both tenants and landlords by answering questions and making referrals on housing-related topics-- including security deposits, rent control, evictions, unpaid rent, and other difficult issues.