



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
510-981-6100
www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org

January 2008

what's happening here
Newsletter of the Berkeley Public Library



"The Cat" by Jan Wurm

DRAWING OUR DAYS at the Berkeley Public Library—art classes and exhibition

Discover your inner artist with Jan Wurm, artist and teacher at the Berkeley Public Library. **Drawing Our Days**, a series of 3 FREE classes on basic drawing techniques will get you started on your own sketchbook. The classes take place from 10:30 AM to noon on three Saturdays: January 19th, 26th and February 2nd. The Central Art and Music Department at 2090 Kittredge Street in downtown Berkeley will provide the setting to explore sketching. Please bring a pencil and sketchbook if you have one, limited supplies will be available.

Jan's own sketchbooks covering forty years of her work will be displayed on the 2nd floor of the library from January 8 to February 4, 2008 in an exhibition called "**Marking Time.**"

Jan Wurm graduated from UCLA and Received a Master's Degree from the Royal College of Art in London. She has exhibited internationally and has taught at art institutions throughout California. Wurm's work is represented in collections including the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Achenbach Graphic Arts Collection and the New York Public Library Print Collection.

These free classes made possible by the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library.

For more information, call 510-981-6100 or visit www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

More Art & Music Programs

Art Exhibit

In conjunction with the above classes, Jan Wurm will present selections from 40 years of her sketchbooks in an exhibit titled *Marking Time*. Jan's sketchbooks will be displayed in the Central Library 2nd Floor Cases from January 8 through February 4.

Noontime Concert in A&M

Classical guitarist Glenn Staller will present a free noontime concert on Thursday, January 17 from 12:15 to 1pm. Fluent in classical, flamenco and jazz, Glenn will perform works by composers such as Sor, Albeniz, de Falla, Piazzolla and others. The performance takes place in the Central Art & Music Department.

Follow-up by program planner Amy Kuo, Central Library Reference Department

Over 80 people attended the December 15, 2007, *American Literature Seminar, An Introduction to 20th Century American Fiction*, including lots of Bay Area authors, professional workers, UC staff and students, and the general public. This program, presented in Mandarin, was intended to help Asian immigrants in our community to develop their interest in, and understanding of, Western literature, culture and their tradition, in an effort to assist them in assimilating into mainstream American society. Professor Hsia focused on important American writers of the 20th century, their lives, representative works, and the cinema based on them. One audience described the talk as being so interesting, so engaging, she didn't want to leave to use the restroom!

Berkeley Public Library owes great thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring our program. Special thanks also go to Berry Fatterman who helped set up the sound system, and Berkeley Public Library staff who helped with the program.

Sixth Annual Authors Dinner

Saturday, February 9th, 2008

The Berkeley Public Library Foundation is pleased to announce the date of its Sixth Annual Authors Dinner on Saturday, February 9th, 2008!

Held in the Main Reading Room of the landmark Central Library, the Authors Dinner celebrates the literary community in which we live. We will be recognizing 29 eminent Bay Area authors, including Vikram Chandra, Michael Krasny, Ben Bagdikian, Peggy Orenstein, Cara Black, Barry Gifford and David Talbot.

The Honorary Chair of the 2008 dinner is Michael Pollan, author of *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*, and a long-time supporter of Berkeley's public library. Following a gala reception, guests will enjoy a gourmet meal and entertainment seated with one of our exceptional authors.

Guests can also participate in an extraordinary Silent Auction, featuring an amazing and unique array of items. These include stays at a vacation home in Paris, France, a week's stay in an apartment in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, or a week in a rustic cabin in Massachusetts' Berkshire Hills.

The Authors Dinner has evolved into a tradition with a decided Berkeley flair – celebrating our vibrant literary heritage, while honoring the library locations and our love for learning. The funds raised at last year's dinner enabled our Foundation to address pressing needs at our branch libraries. The Foundation anticipates that the Sixth Annual Authors Dinner will maintain this momentum and raise additional funds to continue the enhancement of Berkeley's neighborhood libraries, the cornerstones of our community. Treat a friend or two a ticket to this one-of-a-kind event – it's the perfect gift for book lovers and your civic minded friends and loved ones! Or better yet, join us as an honored sponsor of this beloved Berkeley event, the premier gala gathering of the year.

We hope to see you at the Central Library on Saturday, February 9, 2008 at 6:30 pm.

For more information, please refer to our website: www.bplf.org, send an email to info@bplf.org or call the Library Foundation at 510.981.6115.

Survey Of Unmet Library Needs in Southwest Berkeley Launched by Berkeley Public Library

Berkeley Public Library has launched a **Community Survey of Unmet Library Needs in Southwest Berkeley**. The survey is available in both Spanish and English online at berkeleypubliclibrary.org as well as at all library locations in written paper format. The Library will also engage in Community Outreach in the Southwest Berkeley area to get survey participation from that area. **For more info, call 510-981-6107.**

Friday Films for Teens at Central Library

Berkeley Public Library's Teen Services invites teens to free weekly films at the **Central Library, 2090 Kittredge (at Shattuck)**. Films will be shown in the Central Library's Community Meeting Room on the third floor. The first series is a selective retrospective of the work of director Ridley Scott, known for the science fiction thriller, "Alien".

Movies will be shown on the following Fridays: January 18, January 25, February 1, February 18 and February 25. Screenings begin at 3:30. For details of particular films, call 510-981-6121. No registration is required.

Teens who attend these showings will be able to help select the theme for the next retrospective. Ideas include: Johnny Depp, Denzel Washington, Keira Knightley, Queen Latifah, the birth of black cinema, martial arts movies, spoofs, etc.

This program is sponsored by Teen Services and the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library. For accessibility info, call **(510) 981-6107, TTY (510) 548-1240**, or go to berkeleypubliclibrary.org

Teen Knitting Circle at Central Library

Berkeley Public Library's Teen Services is starting a **knitting circle** at the **Central Library, 2090 Kittredge (at Shattuck)**. If you don't already know how to knit, we'll teach you- if you're an experienced knitter, come learn new tricks and share your knowledge with others. Learn how to interpret knitting patterns, and even how to knit without a pattern! Individualized instruction is available. Bring your own knitting needles (size 8 recommended for beginners). Sample yarns are provided.

Our first knitting circle meets on **Saturday, January 19, from 3 – 4:30 p.m., in the 4th floor Story Room of the Central Library**. No registration is required.

From this knitting circle, we hope to create and recruit experienced teen knitters who can earn community service hours by helping beginning knitters at the library's other knitting programs. This program is sponsored by Teen Services and the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library. For accessibility info, call **(510) 981-6107 TTY (510) 548-1240**, or go to berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

Berkeley Public Library

Wishes You a Happy New Year!

Programs listed in the newsletter are supported by the **Friends of the Library** and 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.