

Friends of the Redwood City Public Library



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Spring 2023

www.friendsofrwclibrary.org



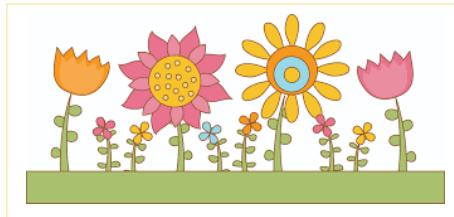
Post-Pandemic Library Use

With library buildings closed during the pandemic, Redwood City Public Library moved to curbside pickups and online programs. How has the pandemic altered library use now that all three libraries are back to full operation?

Ebook circulation was 16% of total checkouts prior to the pandemic. During the pandemic, ebook circulation jumped to 33%. In 2023, ebooks are 20% of total circulation. Some patrons learned they enjoy the convenience of ebooks while others (like your editor) returned to their favored paper copy.

Data show that the number of library visitors varies greatly by location. At the Downtown Library, monthly visitors are 48,000 versus 33,000 pre-pandemic, a 45% increase! However, Schaberg is down 19%, and Redwood Shores is down 50% in monthly visitor numbers. **Thanks to the sizable increase at the Downtown Library, library visits overall have increased by 6% post-pandemic.**

Interestingly, circulation (number of items checked out) is down at all three locations. Downtown

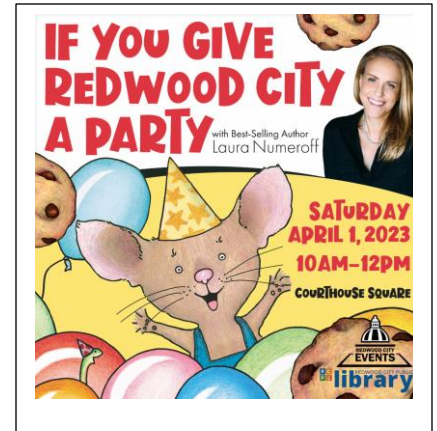


is 19% lower, with Schaberg and Redwood Shores both dropping by 31%. Across the three libraries, circulation is down an average 20%.

Redwood City's library staff grew very adept at creating online programs during the pandemic. Even now, with most programs in-person, a few programs that worked well online have continued in this manner. Children's book clubs, language discussion groups, author talks with non-local authors, and Little Learners craft programs all remain online.

The largest drop in use has been at Downtown's Teen Room. Pre-pandemic, the room averaged 450 visitors per month, but recently the average has been only 100 visitors. The library has expanded hours and is hiring a new teen librarian to promote the space.

This information about library use is a good reminder that we should spread the word that our library is fully back in operation and we should once again make full use of its impressive resources!



Laura Numeroff Visits Redwood City

**Saturday, April 1
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Courthouse Square**

Laura Numeroff, bestselling children's author of the *If You Give...* series, is visiting Redwood City! She will be meeting students at Roosevelt and Hoover Elementary Schools on March 31.

Join us at Courthouse Square on April 1 for Ms. Numeroff's public appearance, where she will read and share some of her author experiences. There also will be music with Andy Z, crafts, games, play, and a drawing for stuffed Numeroff animals – mouse, cat, pig, and moose! Tickets for the drawing will be sold at the event by Friends.

*Ms. Numeroff's visit
is sponsored by the Friends.*

Many Thanks to Those Listed and All Our Members for Your Generous Support in 2022

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- Junior member, under 18 years old - \$10
- Friends - \$15
- Patrons - \$25
- Librarian's Circle - \$50
- Benefactors - \$100 or more

If you wish to make the gift in honor of a friend or loved one:

We will acknowledge 2023 Librarian's Circle and Benefactor levels in our spring 2024 Newsletter.

Check this box if you wish for your donation to be listed as Anonymous.

Please make checks payable to Friends of the Redwood City Public Library, or **donate at our website:** www.friendsofrwclibrary.org

A Membership Card will be sent.

Name

Address

City

Zip Code

Email

Please return to:
1044 Middlefield Road
Redwood City, CA 94063

Friends of the Redwood City Public Library is a 501(c)(3) organization. As such, your membership donation is tax deductible as allowed by law.

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Friends Bookstore Update

In November 2022, Friends returned to staffing its Bookstore in the lobby of the Downtown Library with volunteers. Thank you to each of our returning and many new store workers! Customers have expressed pleasure to once again have a volunteer inside the store!

Also, Friends continues to stock the Book Kiosk at the Redwood Shores Library with wonderful items for sale.

Please visit the Bookstore and the Kiosk soon to support your Redwood City libraries.

