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## President's Message

Dear Friends and Members of the Whittier Public Library Foundation,

As we transition from the warmth of summer to the crisp embrace of fall, I am thrilled to share the highlights of a vibrant season at the Whittier Public Library! Summer in particular was a time of inspiration, innovation, and celebration of our shared love for literature and learning at WPL.

Arguably the cornerstone of the library's summer activities was the Summer Reading Program. Now in its 74th year, the Summer Reading program has been a cherished tradition, bringing together young readers of all ages to explore new worlds, ideas, and experiences through the magic of books—and to celebrate their accomplishments at the traditional party at Parnell Park in August! From these youngest readers taking these first steps into a larger universe to the seasoned bookworms who take advantage of the hundreds of thousands of print, electronic, and audiobooks, the Whittier Public Library was a hub of discovery and skill-building throughout the summer.

In addition to WPL's Summer Reading Program's success, I'm pleased to share exciting news about the Whittier Public Library Foundation itself. This summer we welcomed four new board members who are passionate advocates for our library: Pam Florin, Cindy Greenup, Berta Leon, and Ryne Pearson. Pam, Cindy, Berta, and Ryne are a perfect fit for this organization's board, and they have already started to bring their experiences, expertise, and commitment to a flourishing library to bear on our efforts to support this vital institution.



Appreciation Night: WPLF President Mike Garabedian pictured above, Members enjoying the night below



Indeed, during July, new and veteran Foundation Board members participated in a productive strategic planning retreat in the newly renovated Community Room at Central Library. This gathering allowed us to work together to begin to revamp our mission statement and chart a bold course for the years ahead. Our potential goals are ambitious, and focused on ensuring that WPL Foundation continues to evolve and meet the ever-changing needs of our community. Furthermore, the Foundation's Member Appreciation Dinner held in late August for the first time in many years was a highlight of our summer season, and featured the remarkable Megan Tan, an award-winning podcast writer and producer, as the evening's guest speaker. Megan's insights into the world of storytelling



## Megan Tan

“My library was the first number I ever memorized. Before my social security card number. Before my school ID. Before my cell phone number.

When I learned to ride a bike and had permission from my parents to go outside of our street, the North Side Library in Columbus, Ohio was the first place I rode to by myself. It's where I learned how to make Christmas presents — because I would go to the library, borrow the CDs, come home, copy the CDs, and make mix CDs for my friends — wrap them up and it's a gift.

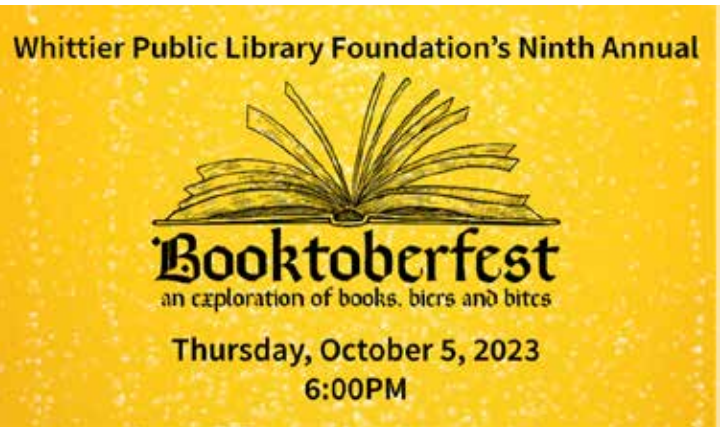
And it was the first place where I volunteered.

I grew up in the same house, less than a mile away from the same library for the first 17 years of my life.

But once I graduated and moved out of the house — in a span of ten years, I had lived in almost ten different places.

So I got really good at packing all of my life into seven boxes in record time and shipping them and myself all over the country, and at moments, all over the world.”

**Read more of Megan Tan's speech from WPLF's Member Appreciation Night at [www.whittierplf.org](http://www.whittierplf.org)!**



## Booktoberfest

**An Exploration of Books, Biers and Bites**

For the past 8 years, **Booktoberfest** has taken over the Library for one night, serving up a tasty variety of beers from local brewers; and paired with delectable bites prepared by eateries we all know and love, enhanced by the opportunity to mingle with our friends and raise funds for the Library. It has truly become one of Whittier's most celebrated events. This year Booktoberfest will take us on an exploration of the many places around the world that celebrate **Books, Biers and Bites** together.

The Whittier Public Library Foundation is excited to announce this year's **Booktoberfest** to be held at Whittier Central Library on Thursday October 5, 2023 at 6:00p.m.

Visit [booktoberfest.org](http://booktoberfest.org) to purchase tickets today!

### President's Message - continued from front page

and the power of libraries left all who attended inspired and eager to champion the mission of the WPL. If you weren't able to Looking ahead, mark your calendars for the Whittier Public Library Foundation's ninth annual Booktoberfest on October 5, 2023! Booktoberfest has become one of the most looked-forward-to events of the year in the City, and for good reason: A celebration of books, culture, and community, Booktoberfest also features a whole lot of good fellowship and fun—and, as always, delicious food and excellent beer from local restaurants and breweries! Additional information and tickets are available at [www.booktoberfest.org](http://www.booktoberfest.org), so buy yours today: Your involvement and support will be instrumental in making this ninth Booktoberfest as resounding a success as last time's, which broke all previous Booktoberfest's fundraising records in support of the library!


As I reflect on the past season and look forward to the exciting events and initiatives on the horizon, I am reminded once again of the invaluable role that the Whittier Public Library plays in enriching people's lives in our town. Your Foundation membership, your patronage of the library, and your enthusiastic support of both contributes to the vibrant tapestry of this stupendous institution, making certain its resources, services, and programming remain second-to-none. Thank you for being an integral part of this community. Let's embrace the fall season with open hearts—and open books!—as we continue to write the story of the Whittier Public Library together.

Sincerely,  
Mike Garabedian  
**President, Whittier Public Library Foundation**

# Upcoming Fall Programming at the Whittier Public Library


**AUTHOR TALK**  
with *Annette Dunlap*

Thursday, September 14th  
Central Library - 6:00 PM



Join us for a special presentation by Annette Dunlap on Lou Henry Hoover.

Limited seating - Free tickets available at the Central Adult Reference Desk.



Join us for  
**THE REEL CLUB**

a documentary film club

**@ CENTRAL LIBRARY  
EVERY 3RD MONDAY**

And if you missed the last few movies join us for...







**THE REEL CLUB**  
REWIND

a documentary film club  
@ WHITTWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY




**Wednesday Night Book Group**

Wednesday September 20th  
6:00pm  
In Person @ the Central Library

SEPTEMBER 28  
Shari Wilson as "Tina Turner"

NOVEMBER 9  
Jazz Trio




DECEMBER 7  
Young Elvis

DECEMBER 14  
Holiday Classical Music

**WHAT'S PLAYING AT THE LIBRARY**  
Afterhours Music Series  
Select Thursdays at 6PM

Central Library  
7344 Washington Ave  
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Limited seating - Free tickets available at the Central Adult Reference Desk

**CELEBRATE HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**  
JOIN US FOR A FUN GAME OF LOTERÍA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH  
CENTRAL LIBRARY - 2:00 PM  
7344 WASHINGTON AVE  
(562) 567-9900

LIMITED SEATING - ALL AGES  
FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRAL ADULT REFERENCE DESK






**TURNBULL CANYON: A ROAD UNWOUND**

A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY WILLIAM OHANESIAN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28  
CENTRAL LIBRARY - 2:00 PM  
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LIMITED SEATING - FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRAL ADULT REFERENCE DESK

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