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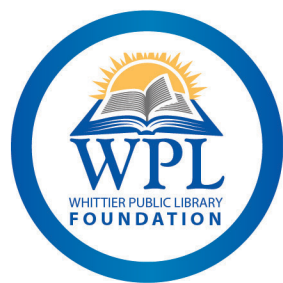
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News

WHITTIER PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

Summer 2024

whittierplf.org



President's Message

Dear Friends and Members of the Whittier Public Library Foundation, Greetings at the start of my final message to you as President of the Whittier Public Library Foundation! While I will continue as a board member of the WPLF, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I announce my successor, who will start July 1: *Mary McCarthy!*

Mary has been a leader on the WPLF Board for more than a decade, and brings a singular commitment to the library, a keen sense of the Foundation's role, and her extraordinary financial and philanthropic wisdom to the position. I know I speak for the entire board when I say how much we're looking forward to new, exciting directions for the Foundation and the library under Mary's leadership.

For now, I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits as we transition into the summer months. I am happy to lead off this newsletter, which includes exciting news and updates from the Foundation—most notably an amazingly successful 2024 Whittier Reads program and news of the Library's Summer Reading program.

The month of April was another special one for our community as together we read the 2024 Whittier Reads selection: Eric Nusbaum's *Stealing Home: Los Angeles, the Dodgers, and the Lives Caught in Between*. And indeed, per that additional title information, this year's Whittier Reads programming touched upon urban planning and the history of the metropolis we call home, the history of baseball, Dodgers fandom, Dodgers *baseball*, Dodgers Stadium, and the myriad lives impacted by these things for better and sometimes worse in the middle of the last century. Among other things, we learned about the mythology of baseball and its importance to life in the United States; the ways in which for many Angelenos the "language" of baseball is a language of love (to borrow a phrase from Whittier Reads speaker and MacArthur Genius Natalia Molina, in conversation with author and *LA Times* editor Gustavo Arellano); and the history of a singular Whittier institution—the Institute of Baseball Studies at Whittier College—from founders Charles Adams and Joseph Price.

All this happened during a whirlwind month of excellent programming that culminated in a free-to-the-public lecture by Mr. Nusbaum followed by a lovely Whittier Reads dinner held inside Central Library. Mr. Nusbaum's expert research and second-to-none knowledge of the subject sparked lively conversations, enriching our understanding not only of the subject, but also of the power of reading to inspire us to think critically and to engage with one another thoughtfully. The evening was a testament to our vibrant community and first-rate library, and I offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone—especially Mr. Nusbaum, the Whittier Reads Committee, WPL staff, WPL Director Paymaneh Maghsoudi, and all the participants throughout April—for making it another truly memorable Whittier Reads.

Reflecting on Whittier Reads' success and its enriching programs, yet again I am reminded of the invaluable role played by the Whittier Public Library Foundation. This essential work promotes reading, literacy, and community via excellent library programs, made possible by generous contributions and steadfast support from members like you.

For those reading this message whose memberships are up for renewal or may have lapsed, I encourage you to renew! Your continued support ensures the Whittier Public Library can continue organizing engaging literary events like Whittier Reads and the outstanding Summer Reading program, and fund crucial services and resources for learning and growth at every stage of life. In short, your renewal is more than a financial contribution: it's a commitment to literature and the transformative power of knowledge, reading, and conversation. Together, we can continue to foster this amazing community that cherishes books, promotes lifelong learning, and empowers its members to thrive.

Renewing is simple: Just visit whittierplf.org and click "Become a Member," or use the enclosed envelope to sustain and expand the programs that are one big reason the Whittier Public Library is

Continued on page 2

Whittier Reads 2024

Did you get to play Baseball Trivia in April? Baseball Trivia was only one of the Whittier Reads April activities. Did you see the baseball memorabilia displayed in the Library (Babe Ruth's cigar & more) courtesy of Whittier College's Institute for Baseball Studies and the College's Baseball Reliquary? This year's Whittier Reads program was a huge success with many fun, interesting, diverse programs in combination with the book "*Stealing Home: Los Angeles, the Dodgers, & the Lives Caught In-Between*" by Eric Nusbaum. Thursday, April 25th, over 100 people enjoyed Nusbaum's interesting, engaging, and informative presentation, as well as the delicious dinner by Bizarra Capital. Hope we see you next year in April at Whittier Reads!

**Myra Weiss, Chair
Whittier Reads Committee**



Foundation Member Bill Geiger
Presenting at Baseball Trivia Night



Natalia Molina and Gustavo Arellano

Donate today!
Visit our website at
www.whittierplf.org
or scan the QR code
for more information.



Author Talk with Eric Nusbaum



Guests enjoying Dinner at the Author
Reception and Dinner



Continued from President's Message

so special! Doing so is one way to ensure our library remains a cherished resource for everyone in Whittier—a beacon of knowledge and inspiration for years to come.

As ever, thank you for your attention, and your continued support! I've been honored and privileged to serve as WPLF President these past two years, and I look forward to my

continued involvement, joining you in supporting the Whittier Public Library as a proud member of the Whittier Public Library Foundation.

Mike Garabedian, President
Whittier Public Library Foundation

Summer Programs at the Library

Summer Reading Club-Club de Lectura de Verano 2024

ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™

LA AVENTURA EMPIEZA EN TU BIBLIOTECA

June 10-July 27

Summer reading fun for kids, teens and adults!
Diversión de lectura de verano para niños, jóvenes y adultos



Central Library
7344 Washington Ave.
562-567-9900



Visit/Visite: Whittierlibrary.org

Whittwood Branch
10537 Santa Gertrudes Ave.
562-567-9950

June 2024

SUMMER STORYTIMES

Experience the joy of stories, songs, and fun perfect
for 0-5 year olds and their caregivers.

CENTRAL LIBRARY Little Listeners Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. June 18 June 25	WHITTWOOD BRANCH SummerAdventures Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. June 20 June 27
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(562) 567-9900



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**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
BOOK GROUP**
CENTRAL LIBRARY
7344 WASHINGTON AVE
(562) 567-9900

JUNE



**MRS. EVERYTHING
BY JENNIFER WEINER**



Needlepoint BASICS

for adults

SATURDAY, JULY 6TH

INTERMEDIATE SESSION - 10:30 AM
BEGINNER SESSION - 1:00 PM

CENTRAL LIBRARY
7344 WASHINGTON AVE
562-567-9900

Learn the basics of needlepoint!
Space is limited. Register at the
Central Adult Reference Desk.



Ukulele Adventures

for teens and adults
with guest artist
David Semien

SATURDAY, JULY 13
1:00 PM

Central Library
7344 Washington Ave
(562) 567-9900

Ukuleles will be provided. Space is limited.
Register at the Central Adult Reference Desk.



ADULT PAINT PARTY

**Monday,
July 15th
5:30 PM**

**PAINT A SELECTED LANDSCAPE
AND TAKE IT HOME WITH YOU!**

Whittwood Branch
10537 Santa Gertrudes Ave.
(562) 567-9950

Sign up at the
Whittwood Branch
Reference Desk

Check out more programming online at whittierlibrary.org/events

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