

OUR MISSION IS TO SUPPORT THE REDWOOD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY IN CULTIVATING LITERACY, LIFE-LONG LEARNING, AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS.

Pub Crawl Educates & Supports Local Businesses

The September Upscale Pub Crawl Fundraiser was a huge success. Over 350 community members enjoyed libations from 12 downtown Redwood City restaurants and pubs while learning more about Banned Books Week. Each location featured two banned books with RCLF board members and volunteers on hand answering questions about why each book had been challenged. Last year, book bans and challenges increased in libraries and schools throughout the U.S.

Our goal was to raise awareness of the impact of book censorship, and encourage the community to protect the freedom to read. We also raised over \$25,000 to fund initiatives for the Redwood City Library. Community feedback from the restaurants, participants, and volunteers make us think this will become an annual event! For more info and photos visit our website at www.rclfdn.org.



**Books Unite Us.
 Censorship Divides Us.**

“Congratulations on a terrific event! You managed to entertain many library supporters and provided great assistance to local restaurants and bars!”

~Georgi LaBerge & Warren Dale

“I just wanted to let you know what a great evening the Pub Crawl turned out to be. I loved chatting with the very knowledgeable docents at each bar. I ran into old friends and made some new ones. And the list of banned books is a very sobering document. Many thanks to all who put the energy into this event — I had a blast and got to support the libraries!”

~Susan Booth

Working Toward a Better Future, One Student at a Time

Career Online High School offers adults the opportunity to complete their high school education and gain career training through a self-paced, supportive, and accredited online education program. Students create a portfolio including a resume and cover letter and receive job preparation support. The RCLF is proud to offer several scholarships. So far this year, three students have completed the program with one

more scheduled to complete before January, and four more are currently enrolled.

“I completed high school while learning about the career of my dreams! COHS is totally worth it. And I am so happy to be able to provide a better future for my kids.”

~Haydee, 2022 COHS Graduate



The Library Makerspace Hits Full Stride

We are grateful for the community's support in building and equipping the new Makerspace in the Downtown Library, which opened to the public on March 1, 2022! Programs have been steadily increasing in number and attendance ever since. Library staff lead programs such as sewing, podcasting, 3D printing, art salons, and more. Through community partnerships with Phase2Careers, MakerNexus, the San Mateo County Office of Sustainability, Peopleologie, and The Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, specialty workshops and events are also hosted.

Because library staff resources are limited, we are in the process of developing a Volunteer Corps to help provide training for the Makerspace equipment. If you are interested in volunteering a few hours in the Makerspace and sharing your time, talent and expertise, please contact Sarah LaTorra at: slatorra@redwoodcity.org.



For more information and to view the calendar of Makerspace program offerings, visit:

www.redwoodcity.org/departments/library/makerspace

To volunteer specifically for the Sunday Coding Club, 3-D Printing or Sewing, visit:

www.redwoodcity.org/departments/library/volunteer

And if you'd like to donate to the Makerspace, please visit:

www.rclfdn.org/donate

Library Makerspace By the Numbers

From March 1 to September 25, 2022, the Makerspace hosted:

<p>19 unique programs</p> <p>313 total classes</p> <p>3283 attendees</p>	<p>→</p>	<p>44% all ages</p> <p>35% adults</p> <p>19% kids</p> <p>3% teens</p>
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English, Spanish & Bilingual Classes!

Bridging the Digital Divide More Important Than Ever

During the pandemic, when students and adults needed internet access at home, RCLF's Bridging the Digital Divide initiative provided hotspots with paid data plans available for checkout from the library.

Even now at least 90% of the library hotspots are checked out at any given time. The Digital Divide initiative also supports the laptop kiosk, which will soon be getting an upgrade. We need your continued support for this program.

Here's what Secundino Zuno, who partners with his wife Ninfa to run the Familias Unidas program, said:

"Access to wi-fi hotspots provided by the library has a tremendous positive impact for the families of the United through Education/Familias Unidas community. During the pandemic, many of the low-income families that we serve were grateful for the hotspots which allowed them to access the internet and the chance to support their children's schoolwork. This initiative gave these families the opportunity to distribute their income to needs other than technology during a very difficult time."



Giving Tuesday is November 29th

Giving Tuesday encourages us to turn our Thanksgiving gratitude into action. Non-profits get funding from grants, philanthropists, and corporate sponsorships, but individual contributions make up over 70% of all donations. Each of us can effect positive impact and create systematic change by giving what we can to the causes that move us.

This Giving Tuesday (November 29th), consider donating to the Redwood City Library Foundation. Flex those generosity muscles and help us create a community where everyone has access to information, knowledge, and technology. And don't forget to check with your employer to see if they match charitable donations. Click here to give:

DONATE

