

2022

# SPRING

NEWSLETTER



Redwood City Library  
**FOUNDATION**  
Supporting Your Library for Today and Tomorrow

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

## The Redwood City Public Library Makerspace is Here!

Do you want to understand the buzz around podcasts and 3D printing? Have you been trying to find a new activity to share with your grandchildren as we emerge from pandemic closures? Do you wish your kids spent less time on their devices and worked together on projects? Then the new Makerspace is a destination worth checking out.

After years of planning, fundraising, and building, the Makerspace in the Downtown Library is finally open with crafting and art tools and supplies, technology tools such as 3D printers and laser cutters, sewing machines, gardening tools and podcast equipment and the list goes on.

For adults who want to make and create, there is Open Sewing, Art Salon, Digital Makers, Seed Swaps and more. On Wednesday mornings, Drop In Tech Help is back: you can bring in your devices for one-on-one assistance. Kids and teens can sign up for Kid Makers, Crafty Wednesdays, Pop-up Chemistry, Teen Makers and Family Makers. More programs will be added during the coming months.

In March, the first Art Salon in the Makerspace featured a freehand sketching session with charcoal. All materials were provided. The results provide a hint of the creativity in our community.

Still not quite sure what the Makerspace really is? Then join us for our **World Creativity & Innovation Day** virtual event on April 21 for demonstrations of podcasting, coding with robots 3D printing, sewing and more (<https://paybee.io/@rclf>).

Makerspace programs are all free and are on the library website now:

[www.redwoodcity.org/departments/library/makerspace](http://www.redwoodcity.org/departments/library/makerspace)



Still Life Charcoal Sketching at Art Salon

### Here are just a few examples of upcoming programming in April for kids and teens:

- **Kid Coding on Sundays:** Coding Workshops for beginners! All ages welcome.
- **Crafty Wednesdays:** We'll provide the supplies, you bring the creativity! For grades K through 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Environmentalist Sophia Qin:** A fun lesson, a reading session and an at-home science experiment that teaches the concept behind ocean acidification.
- **Teen Craft Club:** A different project and activity every month! For teens ages 12+.

### And April programs of interest to adults:

- **Open Sewing:** Use the library's sewing equipment. Inspired by Earth Day, this month we'll be upcycling fabric into scrappy produce bags, cat toys, and plant pots.
- **3D Printing:** Learn how to use 3D printing software.
- **Seed Library:** Discover gardening indoors & outdoors.
- **Drop In Tech Help:** Learn how to create a social media account (English and Spanish).

The Redwood City Library Foundation (RCLF) raised over \$435,000 to complete the Makerspace construction, and is continuing fundraising to supply additional equipment and furnishings. Makerspaces are inclusive and available to an ethnically broad and socio-economically diverse audience. **The Library Makerspace is the only one in southern San Mateo County that serves families with young children.**

You can support the Library and Makerspace by donating to the RCLF at: [www.rclfdn.org/donate](http://www.rclfdn.org/donate).





## Coming this Fall: Community Engagement

### A Message from Library Director Derek Wolfram:

The "RCPL Listens" initiative will bring the Redwood City community together for a series of 15-20 professionally facilitated **discussions about the aspirations residents have for our city**. With guidance and support from both the Redwood City Library Foundation and the Redwood City Library Board, the conversations will be designed to encourage participants to express their aspirations for the community, after which the library will identify opportunities to use its resources to reach these objectives.

**RCPL Listens** will provide an important opportunity to update the collective community knowledge gathered during the last round of RCPL Listens sessions in 2016, which provided the five strategic focuses for library services in the last five years: equity, inclusion, education, awareness, and safety. These conversations will also integrate the **RCPL CARES (Cultivating and Advancing Racial Equity Systemically)** work plan, developed in 2020, into the next generation of Library service priorities, rather than serving as a standalone plan. In addition to open sessions to be attended by anyone in the community, the Library will also conduct specific conversations with underserved segments of the population that have been identified as needing additional services: BIPOC individuals, Spanish speakers, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ folks, people experiencing homelessness, seniors, veterans, and families with young children.

Keep checking the Library web page for more information:

[www.redwoodcity.org/departments/library](http://www.redwoodcity.org/departments/library)

## Celebrate World Creativity & Innovation Day!

### Attend RCLF's Virtual Fundraiser on April 21, 2022

Hosted by the Redwood City Library Foundation, this virtual event will celebrate the completed Makerspace in the Downtown Library and the Maker in all of us!

**Pre-event "buzz" begins at 5:00 pm** featuring mixologists from LV Mar.

The event **begins at 5:15 pm with a Virtual Tour of the new Makerspace** and live demos by local makers including Podcasting, Sewing, 3D Printing, Coding with Robots, and more!

\$20 suggested donation. Event proceeds keep vital library initiatives thriving!

For Tickets & Sponsorship info, go to: <https://paybee.io/@rcf>

### RCLF Celebrates World Creativity & Innovation Day

Virtual Fundraiser  
Thursday, April 21  
at 5:00 pm

*Celebrating  
the completed  
Makerspace in  
the Downtown  
Library and the  
Maker in all of us!*

**TICKETS:**  
<https://paybee.io/@rcf>

**LIVE DEMOS:**  
Podcasting • Sewing • Mixology  
3D Printing • Coding with Robots

Hosted by  
the Redwood  
City Library  
Foundation

Event  
proceeds  
keep library  
initiatives  
thriving!

\$20  
suggested  
donation

For sponsorship information,  
please go to: <https://paybee.io/@rcf>



Mother and daughter working together in the Makerspace

## Giving Update: It Takes a Community!

Despite the pandemic, not only did the local community rise to **meet the \$435,000 funding challenge** of the Makerspace, but our community continues to recognize the pivotal role our libraries serve in the region's recovery. The **2021 fall appeal raised over \$33,000** to support library initiatives like Makerspace in the Downtown Library, Career Online High School, and Bridging the Digital Divide – **exceeding our goal of \$25,000!**

New donors joined the RCLF donor family and, although the total number of donors decreased, the average gift size remained the same. More than \$2,000 was contributed on Giving Tuesday alone! We expanded our digital footprint in 2021; 55% of donations came by check (down from 61% in 2020) and 45% came online (up from 39%).

To stay informed, please send your name and email address to [rclf-officemanager@redwoodcity.org](mailto:rclf-officemanager@redwoodcity.org) so we can keep you up to date. Your library support makes a brighter future possible for everyone in our community.

### Generous Makerspace Grant from Meta

The RCLF thanks Meta (formerly Facebook) for their generous **\$10,000 grant** to support the Makerspace.

*“At Meta we believe in the power to build community and bring the world closer together. We are so inspired by the Makerspace and the great things the community will build together right here in Redwood City.”*

~ **Juan Salazar**  
Director of Local Policy &  
Community Engagement, Meta



## Board Recruitment

**Looking for a way to make a difference in your community? RCLF has a seat just for you!**

Apply to join the Redwood City Library Foundation Board and learn how you can help support our libraries.

We are looking for passionate, civic-minded people who value teamwork and care deeply about our city, our community, and our libraries. Bring your creative ideas and get ready to roll up your sleeves! This important group does everything from strategic planning to event planning.

**Lend your time and talent to a great cause where you can truly make a difference.**

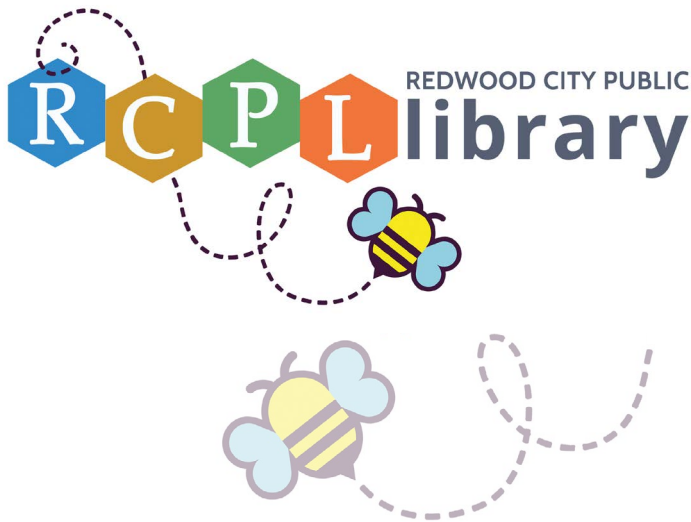
Ready to join? Please fill out the **interest form**. Thank you!

heartfelt thanks

## Save the Date!

**Meet & Greet with RCPL's Beekeeper Kendal Sager**  
**Saturday, April 16 from 4-5 pm**

The RCLF will host a **Meet & Greet Reception** with Redwood City Public Library's Rooftop Beekeeper, Kendal Sager, at **4:00 pm on Saturday, April 16**, in the **Fireside Room** at the **Downtown Library**. Hear about Sager Family Farm activities and ask bee-related questions with an opportunity to purchase the very first batch of spring honey, which tends to be the darkest and spiciest. No RSVP necessary. For more information on the Sager Family Farm, go to: [www.sagerfamilyfarm.com](http://www.sagerfamilyfarm.com)



## Seven Things You Can Do With a Library Card

Did you know that a library card from the San Mateo County Library System or the Redwood City Library allows you to do things such as **rent a bicycle**, **visit a museum for free**, **read newspapers**, **start a garden**, **borrow audiobooks**, **try out the Calm application** or, of course, **visit the new Makerspace?** Click [here](#) to learn more in the full article!

### Current RCLF Initiatives

Your gifts promote literacy and building community for all ages through the following initiatives:

#### Makerspace

A community workspace in the Downtown Library that promotes curiosity and creativity, where users can learn about a variety of technologies and craft making.

#### Bridging the Digital Divide

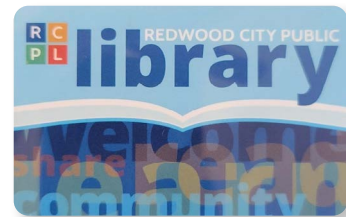
Digital literacy tools, including computers, data and annual software licenses, and hotspot devices.

#### Interpretive Center Upgrades - Redwood Shores Library

Updates and improvements to the decade-old educational center, where children can learn about the SF Bay and its wetlands through interactive displays and games.

#### Career Online High School in the Library

An 18-month program where adult learners can earn a high school diploma and career certificate with support from library personnel.



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**FOUNDATION**

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