

Happy New Year!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING / JANUARY 2021

## KIDS & TEENS

**Building Blocks for Kindergarten with SMPL**  
Mondays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25 / 1:00 to 1:15 p.m.

[Access via Facebook](#)

Join us for short bilingual English/Spanish video segments that focus on kindergarten-readiness skills through reading and activities. Track Building Blocks activities your child completes through the virtual platform Beanstack and earn points towards a prize drawing for book packs. To register, go to [smpl.beanstack.org](http://smpl.beanstack.org).

**Construyendo los Cimientos para el Kinder con SMPL**

Lunes, 4, 11, 18 y 25 de enero / 1:00 a 1:15 p.m.

[Acceda por Facebook](#)

Únase a nosotros para ver breves segmentos de videos bilingües en inglés/español que se enfocarán en habilidades específicas de preparación para el kinder a través de actividades interactivas y de lectura. Rastree las actividades de Building Blocks que su hijo complete, a través de una plataforma virtual llamada Beanstack y gane puntos para un sorteo de premios para paquetes de libros. Para registrarse en este programa gratuito, vaya a [smpl.beanstack.org](http://smpl.beanstack.org).



**Plant an Herbalicious Garden!**

Saturday, January 9 / 1:00 to 1:45 p.m.

[Register via Zoom](#)

The Santa Monica Community Gardens shows kids how to start their own herb garden, perfect for a windowsill or patio. Materials provided and available at Curbside Pickup locations, while supplies last. Co-sponsored with the Office of Sustainability and the Environment. For kids ages 6-11.

**Roads to Respect: Keeping Kids Safe**

Tuesday, January 12 / 10:00 a.m.

Parents and caregivers play a unique role in child abuse prevention. Learn how to help protect the children in your life. Presented by Kimberly White, LMFT. For parents and caregivers. To register for this discussion, email [silvia.cisneros@smgov.net](mailto:silvia.cisneros@smgov.net)



## Curbside Pickup

No appointments are necessary for curbside pickup. Just place a hold to pick up items at your preferred location: Main Library, Pico Branch, or Montana Avenue Branch. Wait to receive your email, text, or phone notification that your hold items are ready, then drop in to pick up your items at your selected location. Upon arrival, follow the directions on the posted signs. **When picking up items, please bring your Library card or photo ID, wear a mask, and practice social distancing.**

**Pickup locations and hours:**

**Main Library**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday

Saturday, January 9 & Saturday, February 6

**Pico Branch**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday

Saturday, January 9 & Saturday, February 6

**Montana Avenue Branch**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday & Wednesday

**There will be no Curbside Pickup and Library services on Friday, January 1 & Monday, January 18**

## ADULTS



**Ocean Park Branch Book Group Discussion:**  
*The Nickel Boys*  
by Colson Whitehead

Thursday, January 7 / 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

In this follow-up to *The Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead dramatizes a strand of American history through the story of two boys sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida. Register to attend this program by emailing [karen.reitz@smgov.net](mailto:karen.reitz@smgov.net).

**Notable Fiction Book Group Discussion:**

*Trust Exercise* by Susan Choi

Saturday, January 16 / 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

While attending a competitive performing arts high school in the 1980s, David and Sarah fall in love. A shocking spiral of events catapults the action forward and flips their story upside down. Register to attend this program by emailing [karen.reitz@smgov.net](mailto:karen.reitz@smgov.net).

**Main Library Book Group Discussion:**

*The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka

Monday, January 18 / 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

In this short novel from 1915, a young man transforms into a giant insect in a dark and ambiguous fable of alienation, modernity, and the family. Register for this program by emailing [jeff.schwartz@smgov.net](mailto:jeff.schwartz@smgov.net).



**Mystery Book Group Discussion:**  
*The A.B.C. Murders*  
by Agatha Christie

Tuesday, January 19 / 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

In one of Christie's most twisted tales, Hercule Poirot navigates the eerie maze of a serial killer's mind. Register to attend this program by emailing [karen.reitz@smgov.net](mailto:karen.reitz@smgov.net).



**Montana Avenue Branch Book Group Discussion:**  
*Overthrow: America's Century of Regime Change from Hawaii to Iraq*  
by Stephen Kinzer

Wednesday, January 20 / 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Author Stephen Kinzer tells the stories of the powerful people who took it upon themselves to depose monarchs, presidents, and prime ministers. He also shows how the U.S. government has pursued such operations without understanding the countries involved, resulting in disastrous long-term consequences. Register to attend this program by emailing [stephanie.archer@smgov.net](mailto:stephanie.archer@smgov.net).

**Mindful Meditation**

Thursday, January 21 / 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Curious about mindfulness meditation and how it might help in stressful times? Experience the pause that refreshes with longtime meditation teacher Henry Schipper. Beginners and experienced meditators looking to support their practice are welcome. 30 minute meditation plus Q&A. Register to attend this program by emailing [karen.reitz@smgov.net](mailto:karen.reitz@smgov.net).

**Sleuths & Sidekicks Mystery Author Panel**

Saturday, January 23 / 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Discover new authors of mystery fiction while learning what it takes to be a published writer. Authors Jen Collins Moore (Maggie White Mysteries), Tina deBellegarde (Batavia-on-Hudson Mysteries), Carol Pouliot (Blackwell and Watson Time Travel Mysteries), and Lida Sideris (Southern California Mysteries) discuss their books, followed by an audience Q&A. Register to attend this program by emailing [karen.reitz@smgov.net](mailto:karen.reitz@smgov.net).

## ONGOING CLASSES

**Citizenship Classes**

Mondays / 12:00 to 2:30 p.m.

This series of classes is taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Students must be 18 years or older to attend. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext. 76203 or [osaucedo@smmusd.org](mailto:osaucedo@smmusd.org) to enroll.

**ESL Classes**

ESL, Multi Level LOW

Fridays / 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

ESL, Multi Level LOW

Saturdays / 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ESL, Multi Level HIGH

Mondays / 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes is taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Students must be 18 years or older to attend. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext. 76203 or [osaucedo@smmusd.org](mailto:osaucedo@smmusd.org) to enroll.

**Have questions or need help? Library staff are available Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact us at 310-458-8600 or [reference@smgov.net](mailto:reference@smgov.net).**