



SAN MARINO PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION
 SUPPORTING THE LIBRARY SINCE 1995

Fall 2019

In This Issue

Delicious Destinations

Adult Programs at Crowell

Dr. Thom Mason

**San Marino Public Library
 Foundation**

*Hal Suetsugu, President
 Yvonne Cheng, Vice President
 Elsie Wu, Secretary
 N. Chris Datwyler, Treasurer*

*Julie Barbour
 Jennifer Chen
 Nam Jack
 Stephanie Kelsey
 Susan Kim
 Sylvia Koh
 Po-Chi Lin
 Calvin Lo
 Debra Sadun
 Lora O. Smith
 Mary Ulin
 Su Viswanathan
 Gloria Wong*

The **San Marino Public Library Foundation** is a tax exempt 501(c)3 charitable organization organized in 1995. The Foundation conducted the Brand New Library capital campaign which raised over \$10 million to help build the current Crowell Public Library. Today, the Foundation endeavors to fulfill its mission to raise funds to support and enrich the Crowell Public Library.

San Marino Public Library Foundation
 1890 Huntington Drive
 San Marino, CA 91108
 626.300.0775 x544 or
 www.sanmarinopl.org

All gifts are tax deductible for tax purposes to the fullest extent of the law.

Delicious Destinations Bringing the “Fun” into Fundraising

On Saturday, November 16, 2019 at 6 pm, the San Marino Public Library Foundation will transform the Crowell Public Library into the sights, sounds, and epicurean delights of **California**. The Foundation invites you to come and re-connect with California’s majestic Sequoias, grand landscapes, the magic of Hollywood, the nostalgic clang of Cable Cars, and the taste temptations of international cuisine at your doorstep... guests will embark on a journey re-discovering beautiful California at **Delicious Destinations!**



California’s Culinary Scene

Delicious Destinations will transport party goers with culinary delights reflecting the global cuisine of California. This year’s tempting dishes will be expertly offered by *Alexander’s Prime Meats and Catering* and *Sierra Fusion*. Join us in sampling their seafood creations, prime cuts, sushi, empanadas, and much, much more. The extraordinary quality of *Alexander’s* and *Sierra Fusion* food, service, and presentation has ensured its reputation as one of the top catering firms in Los Angeles. Paired with this gastronomic experience, guests will enjoy musical renditions from the *Contemporary Los Angeles Winds*, a woodwind quintet, who will delight listeners with light classical and contemporary pieces. A glass of wine and other libations will add to the ambiance.

New Experiences Await

Guests at **Delicious Destinations** will be able to bid on spectacular silent auction items, a vacation getaway at a beautiful home at Telluride with a view of Trout Lake; a luxury boating and dining experience on a privately captained vessel on Newport harbor; exclusive and private museum tours including the Battleship Iowa, CalTech, the Huntington Library, the Gamble House; and stay and experience a private tour of the Amazon including Dobbler Building, the Sphere and the Amazon Go and 4-star stores; and Los Angeles Dodger tickets.

This year’s **Delicious Destinations** will set the groundwork to provide funding for the replacement of the 36 public internet access computers, which have been in service since 2015 and provided over 36,000 hours of public service last year, and for adult programming for the coming year. Last year, the library presented over 200 adult programs that were attended by over 4900 people.

Get your **Delicious Destinations** tickets for \$125 at the Circulation Desk in the library, or at DeliciousDestinations.org.

Sponsorship opportunities are available by contacting Cindy Chan at cchan@cityofsanmarino.org or at deliciousdestinations.org.

Crowell Library—Evolving To Meet Today’s Needs

When walking through the inviting shaded courtyard of the Crowell Public Library, you are greeted with signage with many gentle reminders of current events that are occurring. Dr. Thom Mason, USC Professor Emeritus of Jazz Studies, is having his highly attended music lecture series this month. There’s a classical guitar performance later in the week which you make a mental note of to attend. You walk into a quiet yet bustling library with staff and volunteers

ready to assist you, and sit at a computer station and log on to read emails, news reports, and connect with friends on social media accounts. You have an appointment in thirty minutes with library staff to better understand your smartphone which you have heard is so useful in taking vacation pictures and sending them to families by group text.

Libraries are evolving from those very quiet and dimly lit repository of books, magazines and newspapers to a robust

community center providing many methods of knowledge dissemination, programs on lifestyle enhancement, and a holistic effort to engage all patrons within and across communities. It is with the understanding of this revolution, that the San Marino Public Library Foundation Board hopes to bring a positive experience meeting the needs of today’s challenges to our Patrons. Below are a few of the programs the Foundation supports and capital projects it has funded via the contributions made by you.

Programs:

USC Emeriti Professors,
Music Programs,
Classic Matinee Movies,
General Adult Programming

Capital Projects:

Replacement of Audio-Visual Equipment,
RFID Transition,
Replacement of Public and Staff Computers

Community Events:

Delicious Destinations,
Open House,
Bookmark Contest

The Boutiques at Delicious Destinations

Event ticket holders have an unique shopping opportunity of *exclusive offerings* only available at Delicious Destinations! Boutique doors will open at 5:30pm.



Wee Monster

Kids clothing with a spunky spin. Come find unique designs that celebrate that ‘kids should be kids!’

Jean Waters Fine Accessories

A showcase of limited edition, distinctive fashion clothing and unique fashion accessories.

Blankety Blank Designs

Lovingly created handcrafted picture frames, jewelry boxes, ornaments for gifts, home and pet lovers.



Ronelle Designs

Natural stone and pearl jewelry designs to delight. This is the place to find that statement necklace, earrings, pins and bracelets you have been looking for.

The Treasured Accessory

High quality women’s costume jewelry including necklaces, rings, earrings which are perfect for that special evening, the holidays or gifts.



Moonlite Clothing

Imported cashmere and fur shawls, capes, coats and scarves for the discriminating buyer.

Our Heiday

Creative and elegant invitations, desk products, greeting cards, gift wrap and gift tags.



Thank you to our Delicious Destinations Sponsors!

Don and Gabriela Crowell

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger / Lora O. Smith

Eric Chang and Jennifer Chen / Lois Derry / Friends of the Crowell Public Library - Book Shoppe

Linda Hui and Hal Suetsugu / Ko Yen Lin Family Foundation / Carole Pennington

Debra and Alfredo Sadun / Rosemary Simmons / Martha Tolles / Mary and John Ulin / Anonymous

Jim and Julie Barbour / Avery and Andy Barth / Caroline and Henry Blauvelt

C. Joseph Chang and Shwu Chang / Alan Chen and Yvonne Cheng / Danny Chon / Sally and Chris Datwyler

Sally Graves De Witt / The Gertmenian Family / William and Barbara Hanna / Liz and Mike Hollingsworth

Steven and Lindsey Huang / Susan Jakubowski / Eva and Michael Jen / Susan and Paul Kim

Cheryl and Howard Krauss / Bruce and Joyce Lafko / Diane Lam / Sandra Chen Lau and James Lau

Richard and Joyce Lin / Lisa and Dave Link / Linda and Robert Mollino / In Memory of Maureen Norgaard

Jud O. Roberts / Gretchen Shepherd Romey and Michael Romey / Tina Siu, DDS MS and Winston Chee, DDS

Millie and Alan Steinbrecher / Nancy and Eldon Swanson / The UPS Store / Anonymous

The Agarwal Family / Emile Bayle / Bonnie Boyd / Serena Ho / Allison and Erik Moller / Phyllis and Steve Wilburn

Billie K. Youngblood / Anonymous

Foundation Supports Adult Programs at Crowell

Through your generous donations, the Library Board Foundation is able to support Adult Programs where patrons enjoy music performances by Grammy-nominated musicians, a popular Speaker Series by the San Marino Historical Society, Movie Classics Matinee, Toastmasters and many other well-attended programs on Healthy Living, Graceful Aging, Science & Technology, Finance, and the LA Opera.

Denise Dobbs, who is responsible for developing the Adult Programs for the Library, has carefully cultivated speakers and events that are of interest to the community. Recently, Ms. Dobbs shared that our community is filled with active learners so she tries to find programs that meet this need. "They like to learn how to do something, such as selling on Ebay or learning how to use Facebook to better communicate with family and friends".

Moreover, Ms. Dobbs said that the library is very fortunate to be able to host the very popular monthly music lecture series by Dr. Thom Mason, USC Professor Emeritus of Jazz Studies, Thornton School of Music. "Dr. Mason not only shares the history of Jazz and Swing, but combines the programs with interesting historical points and often plays clarinet to the delight of the audience". Please come and experience the library's Adult Programs. Some upcoming programs:

Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 3pm

Come to Crowell Public Library for an enjoyable hour of music from around the globe featuring compositions from Japan, Russia, France, Brazil, Spain and Mexico.

The Artisan Guitar Ensemble



January 25, 2020 10am-3pm

Crowell Public Library Open House

Come see what is happening in 2020 at the Crowell Public Library.



February 13, 2020

Earle Jager and the Memory Laners



Earle Jager and his Memory Laners perform tunes from the 1930s through the 1960s. The band will evoke pop tunes from the past and surely send listeners into a state of nostalgic reverie. You might even be moved to dance cheek to cheek!



The Amazing Dr. Thom Mason, an Interview

Born in Welch, West Virginia raised in Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, learned clarinet and saxophone, touring with Buddy Holly and the Crickets while still in high school. He has a BA (University of Wisconsin), MA (De Paul University, Chicago), Doctor of Music (Northwestern University)

Dr. Mason has been presenting his History of Jazz series at the Crowell Public Library since 2013.

What drew you to the study of Jazz & Swing?

When I was a young boy, I became interested in music. However, my family was very poor so they couldn't afford for me to take up a conventional instrument. As a result, my mother bought me a harmonica and that's how I began my musical career. Since the harmonica is normally played by ear, I learned my favorite songs in much the same way most jazz musicians learned to play, by trial and error without learning to read notes. In sixth grade I wanted to be in the church band and so my dad bought me a used saxophone. Playing in the church band, I still didn't need to read music because I knew all the hymns anyway. I finally learned to read music when I wanted to join the junior high school band and found it didn't take long to associate written notes with the sounds in my head. With this as my background, I pursued music as a career, but with a special focus on musicians who played "by ear," and that naturally meant musicians who played Jazz and Swing, the most popular of the forms of improvised music being played in the 40s and early 50s.

Most people during the 50s went to ballrooms and nightclubs if they wanted to listen to or dance to Swing music, and it wasn't long before I found myself playing Jazz and Swing music in public, even

though I wasn't technically old enough to be performing in the clubs in my neighborhood. As the Swing Era came to a close in the late 50s it was being replaced by bands that played a hybrid style that mixed jazz and rock together, so even though I preferred the more serious soloing by artists like Charlie Parker, Sonny Rollins, Miles Davis and others, there were numerous opportunities for me to develop my solo skills in the new Fusion styles.

What were the significant events in bringing Jazz to larger national and international audiences?

As I continued to study and develop my skills as a jazz musician, I started to notice some of the significant events that had historically brought Jazz to larger national and international audiences. World War II was by far, the most important of these. World War II brought numerous American Jazz artists to Europe to perform for our troops and for the people who supported our cause.

Is Jazz continuing to develop as a musical category? If so, from what are the current influences?

Following the war many Europeans took up Jazz as a form of creative self-expression. In particular, British musicians who had direct exposure to jazz because American bases were located in and around London, quickly absorbed Jazz music. The same was true in the East as well following the war, and today there are numerous Japanese artists like

Ryo Fukui and groups like Cassiopeia, Dimension and the Gentle Forest Jazz Band, as well as other Asian artists who like to perform jazz music. In fact, some of the best new Jazz musicians on the scene are coming from Euro-Asian backgrounds.

The solo language used by Jazz musicians today has been defined and codified for several decades, and we find improvisational soloing appearing in a wide variety of situations. Some of the best-known artists are vocalists who play jazz piano, artists like Dianna Krall, Diane Schuur and Jamie Cullum. But don't be surprised to find Jazz soloing on other instruments as well.

Could you recommend any Jazz radio stations ?

If you want to hear examples of today's Jazz on the radio, look no further than KJAZZ 88.1. The dominant styles being played on the air are hybrids of Smooth Jazz, Cool Jazz and Jazz Fusion, yet all these musicians showcase their improvisational skills for you to hear.

Can you share your thoughts on the future of Jazz?

I believe there will be a place for Jazz music and Jazz soloing as long as there is a need for instrumental musicians to showcase their talents within the wide range of general categories available in today's music.

The Bookmark Contest Returns

●Winning bookmark designs will be distributed at the Crowell Public Library throughout 2020.

●Entrants need to be 18 or under and have a Crowell Public Library card. There will be six (6) winners chosen from three different age groups. The age groups are ages 8 and under; ages 9-13 and ages 14-18.

●Each winning designer will be awarded a \$100 gift card.

●Entry forms available from November 25, 2019–December 17, 2019 at smplf.org or in the library.

●Winners will be announced January 25, 2020 at the Library Open House.

If you are interested in being a 2020 bookmark sponsor, please contact Cindy Chan at cchan@cityofsanmarino.org or at 626/300-077 x544.

Thank you to our 2019 bookmark sponsors:

The Chang Group:

Linda Chang, Ann Gluck and Brent Chang

Chinese School of San Marino

Chinese Club of San Marino