

See Gull

Newsletter

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

So much has happened since our last newsletter! If you have been struggling to keep cool, Autumn is here, and hopefully cooler weather will prevail.

I hope you have been able to attend some of the wonderful programs offered this summer at our Library – the staff really knows how to get our children, teens, and adults interested! I know I enjoyed the Adult Summer Reading Program and read a total of 12 books! Woo-hoo! But compared to the top reader who racked up 50, I fell short and harbor feelings of inadequacy, but I'll get over it! Check out the Library website for upcoming programs and events this Fall.

I also hope you went to our May or August Book Sales, or plan to attend the last one of the year on November 15. There are great deals for all you bibliophiles out there. We are consistently raising \$1500+ at each sale, which goes a long way in helping us meet our funding goals to the Library. The Friends' Bookstores, Amazon, and Farmers Market sales are at an all-time high I am pleased to report. We sure couldn't do it without our faithful cadre of volunteers. They are all amazing, and we can't thank them enough.

On a more serious note – I am sure the community appreciates our Library services, but in a progressively digital world, I believe the role of libraries as community and cultural centers are becoming undervalued. Libraries come under occasional fire, like school districts, when municipal and state budgets shrink; add in the non-stop technological revolution, and public library services that focus on building community face-to-face, inspiring and educating patrons about art, literature, and music, and helping patrons engage in civil discourse can seem quaint, old-fashioned, and perhaps even outdated. But it is precisely those two things – shrinking budgets and ever-changing technology - that make public libraries' cultural and community offerings more important than ever. Our Library is more than just books on a shelf and banks of computers, it is a place where people gather to explore, interact, and imagine. Libraries **are** community builders, community centers, art centers, universities of learning, and most importantly, champions of youth. The Friends have seen first hand how Library staff are inspired to become more active in creating services and programs that are community focused. Those who may argue that libraries are becoming obsolete don't understand that our Library is more than just books and technology, our Library is an essential component of Oceanside's community. Our Library builds citizens, educates individuals, and fosters a thoughtful society. **WE KNOW** that libraries are worth fighting for and worth funding.

So if you are thinking about any estate planning in the near future, don't forget a small endowment to one or more of our community non-profits who work so hard to make a difference to the people they serve. Give a gift of membership in the Friends as your next birthday, or Christmas, gift to a loved one or friend. Celebrate your community by giving locally.

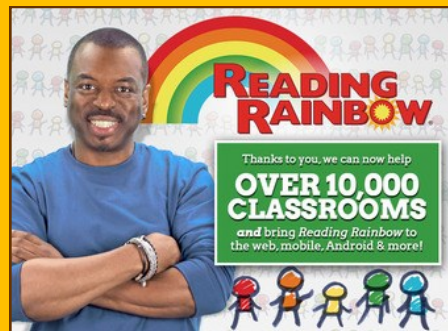
See you at the Holiday Home Tour on December 14!

Blake Kern, President, Friends of the Oceanside Public Library

THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR

by Alma Sisco-Smith

At first blush thinking on this See Gull issue, I was compelled to share some thoughts on the Summer Reading Program. I was supercharged upon learning about similar efforts elsewhere. For example, on July 6 I learned about the national Kickstarter program for *Reading Rainbow*, led by LeVar Burton, an actor giving back to the community: *Reading Rainbow* has been successfully funded and its library of interactive books and video field trips will now be brought to more platforms and provided free to classrooms in need everywhere. Then, on July 20, Sandy Banks, a prominent LA Times journalist, wrote about her wondrous find in visiting the Los Angeles Central Library. She had not gone there for years and, only after being in her empty nest for the first time, now found a range of stimulating summer programs and interesting people. Then the August 1 issue of The Coast News – front page – carried a detailed article about the Carlsbad Library and its successful Friends' Book Sales.



Well that did it! I thought, 'what about us – the Oceanside Public Library?' We are all that, and then some. One might ask, "What makes Oceanside Public Library a competitive force compared with the lofty ranks of the foregoing?" So glad you asked.

Throughout this issue you are going to find the outstanding reach of the Summer Reading Programs for adults and youth. It is the stuff that makes one feel proud of their community. In addition, you will read about the continuing success of our Friends' Bookstore, Farmer Market Sales, and the robust funds the Friends have raised through Amazon sales.

But especially, you will be awed by the **more than 200 adult and 200 teen volunteers** it takes to augment the work of the Library. To this end, you will read about three who share a love for libraries and ours in particular.

Finally, you will be thankful for the spirit of the Friends and the Foundation – together the repository of dedicated visionaries - without which the Oceanside Public Library could not maintain the competitive edge that it has. As the Friends' President, Blake Kern, states "libraries are worth fighting for and worth funding."

Friends of the Oceanside Public Library

- -1971-2014, Celebrating 43 Years of Community Service- -

IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER, BECOME ONE TODAY

by Leland Russell, Membership Chair

Our membership now stands at 625, up a bit from earlier this year. I find it encouraging that more members appear to be renewing their memberships this year, and more at higher levels than previously. We are encouraged by the response to our earlier calls to dig a bit deeper to support the many good things that our Library brings to our community. Membership income to date stands at \$10,360. With the fourth quarter yet to go, I believe we will reach our membership income goal of \$14,000. Thanks to all who continue to support the Friends year after year!

If you have questions or concerns about your membership, please feel free to call me at (760)-757-1565.



Annual Membership: Individual — \$10 Booster — \$50 Business or Organization — \$100
Family — \$25 Patron — \$100 Benefactor — \$500

Donation: I've enclosed an extra \$_____ to help the Friends.

Make check payable to: Friends of the Oceanside Public Library. Membership and donations are tax-deductible.

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Summer Reading

Summer Reading

Summer Reading

Summer Reading

Summer Reading

Summer Reading

Summer Reading

Summer Reading

CHILDREN: FIZZ, BOOM, READ

ADULTS: EAT. SLEEP. READ.

This summer the children of Oceanside really did “Fizz, Boom READ!” - an outstanding season by all accounts. Robots and science experiments that could be done at home with simple kitchen ingredients were developed by staff and teen partners. As children came in to report their reading, they were awed and inspired seeing the robots and the sample science experiments.

The Friends of the Library generously supported a wealth of educational, fun and exciting events for families that related to the engaging science theme. Tweens learned how to take apart a computer and put it back together again. Many incredible performers were greatly enjoyed by the community, including Mad Science, Radical Reptiles and Pacific Animal Productions. At the Mission Branch Library, a Bubblemania bubble show kicked off the summer, with almost 200 in attendance.

Children’s books were celebrated with fun programs such as a visit from Eric Carle’s *Very Hungry Caterpillar*, a how-to-draw Dav Pilkey’s popular book series character, *Captain Underpants*, with a professional cartoonist, and “Literature Comes to Life,” where children were part of the story and dressed in imaginative costumes.

More than 10 special events were held at our bookmobiles. Staff brought science experiments to the Bookmobile park stops and performers, such as the Balloon Chef and Rodrigo the Magician, to the Adelante. A total of about 600 children signed up to participate in summer reading at the bookmobiles.

One of the most successful ventures was a new weekly Science Fun program. Staff created experiments to demonstrate topics that addressed weather, exploding science, the five senses, body science, environment and engineering explored with LEGO building. This program series was so well-liked by the community that staff plan to continue it once a month during the school year.

The Numbers:

**Participants: 2,157 Hours Read: 12,000
Number of Events: 120!**

This Summer there was a ton of excitement at the Oceanside Public Library! We saw so many new people in the Library, with the Mission Branch remodel and exciting programs at the Adelante, the Bookmobile, and the Civic Center Library. We had 1,093 different users check out books this Summer and more than 1,000 new patrons register for library cards! A lot of those new users came for the Summer Reading Programs and its accompanying events.

The Adult Summer Reading theme for 2014 was “Eat. Sleep. Read.” Oceanside is becoming a foodie destination and we really wanted to capitalize on that and be part of the local movement. By choosing “Eat. Sleep. Read.” as our theme, we were encouraging people to visit some of our new local eateries, stay in some of our new hotels, and read in our beautiful city!

Our adult summer reading programming centered around reading and discussing books at different locations in our City. Each member of the Adult Services team selected a book and ran individual discussion Book Clubs at various locations. The Adelante presented a bilingual book club at its Libby Lake stop, Stone Brewing hosted a group, and one was presented at the LGBTQ Center.

The Book Clubs featured a total of 11 different titles. We learned a lot from doing this intense Book Club schedule, most importantly that – we – Oceanside Public Library – need to do more Book Clubs! The experience was invaluable and enjoyable. We took notes on which books people read and which discussions they attended. We found out, for example, that our Library Patrons want a Non-Fiction Book Club, that a Bilingual Book Club is a great idea, and that hosting Book Clubs out in the community is a great way to do outreach! As a result, we have added a few monthly Book Clubs to our Adult Services schedule during the year.

The Numbers:

**Participants: 184 Books Read: 756
Number of Events: 30!**

Spotlight on Volunteerism by Alma Sisco-Smith

Union Tribune's Sept 2 issue provided an informative column on the Boomer generation, making note of the fact that this generation, like others before, would be the game changers on several fronts. Of particular interest, was the fact that "retirement is [just] a word" for this generation because for many boomers they "re-career" which means "re-imagining your life."

No one gives better testimony to this new way of living than one of our own Friends' volunteers, **Jane Goodhue**. Actually, she coined the term "re-imagining." Jane blew onto the scene just one and a half years ago from Washington. As a widow, she came to be closer to her son, his wife, and her grandson. She makes the Energizer Bunny look slow! As an elementary school teacher for 38 years and two and a half years as educational instructor for teachers on how to manage classrooms, she arrived here knowing she would be involved somehow in the community. Attending a Farmer's Market one Thursday transitioned to becoming a volunteer every Thursday at the market for the Friends' book sales, and every Monday for book sorting. Two days with the Library and two days at Tri-City Hospital delivering newspapers and magazines to patients, or serving as an Escort to get patients from point A to point B, keeps her busy. Yet that is only half of her time. The hours between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. most days she has her grandson while the "Mum" heads off for her 12 hour nursing shift at a San Diego hospital. And during the evening hours she balances a lot of social time with other volunteers, including trips down to San Diego playhouses, or local movies and dinner with her group of friends (the same friends that she made through her work with the Friends here at the Library).



As a Baby Boomer, born in 1947, she knew she wanted to be a teacher from the time she was in the 4th grade in Michigan (that's another awesome story in itself). After serving as the librarian for the campus library at Green River Community College for two years, she went back to school to do what she willed herself to do. The rest is history. She says now, "try something new, something you weren't necessarily trained to do but have an interest in. It's experiential, and helps to develop the synapses. I have always loved libraries and taking care of others. Also, help give a smile to someone, somewhere; place a hand on someone's shoulder - a little one, a patient, or a homeless soul. Our community is only as good as what we are willing to invest in it."

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This past April, **Cheri Bailey** celebrated one year as a volunteer and continues to love it. Hearing her words, it is not an exaggeration to say she holds profound respect for Oceanside Public Library, and receives great joy from it. One can understand this upon reading the following:

In April of 2013, not sure what day in particular, I had wandered into a small bookstore inside the Oceanside Public Library on HWY 101. I was down in the dumps about my Workman's Comp case and personal finances; I needed a distraction from the things out of my control. I was startled by a booming voice, "Hi! Welcome to the Library Bookstore! How can I help you?" I had a wonderful conversation with this enthusiastic individual who didn't know she did me a huge favor that day. She even sold me on volunteering there in the Bookstore, which would do me some good to get out of the house since I lived so close anyway. Up to that point, I had never volunteered before in my entire life. I couldn't resist sitting amongst the books and conversing with patrons. The desk faces a small wall, and the wheeled chair allows me to look straight down the hall and observe people coming and going. It was one of the best decisions that I have followed. In the year 2013, The Friends of the Library, a non-profit organization, donated \$118,000.00 in support to the Oceanside Public Library.



Cheri is proud of Oceanside Public Library's standing in the community, and the foregoing was her introduction of a paper she wrote for a sociology class at MiraCosta College. The full essay will be one of the contributions in MiraCosta College's *Reflections*, a publication of student essays through the Service Learning Center. Her work with the Library also qualified for community service and one-half of her grade.

Born in 1965, the tail end of the Baby Boomers, she and her family traveled a lot with her father who served in the Army as a Medic in the Vietnam and Korean wars. After his service, they settled in Manhattan, Kansas, a small college town. In 1985, after obtaining an Associate's Degree in Graphic Arts, she moved around Kansas primarily working with Best Buy, traveling for them opening new stores until she just "burned out". She then went to spend some time with her mother in New Mexico, after a brief stay in Colorado Springs.

She describes herself as a wanderer, until 2011 when she arrived in San Diego where she went to the library and researched her desired location, which proved to be Oceanside. Between 2011 and 2013, Cheri encountered several hardships but found tremendous resources here, such as the North Coastal Career Center, MiraCosta College and Oceanside Public Library. She hopes to finish a Bachelor's degree in Studio Art, with a focus in photography; then open her own studio.

This will bring her full circle as she reflects upon the connection with her mother: “She felt that libraries were critically important. They were the go to place when life was up or down.” Cheri’s mother came down with Polio during the epidemic, was a poster child, yet completed her Bachelor and Master degrees, and owned her own little bookstore. It is clear, indeed, and understandable how and why Cheri claims that the Library brought, and continues to bring, solace to her life.

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Christina Tsatsakos, a Generation Y, arrived here in May 2012, a native from New York City; driven to this California coastline for the fabulous conditions conducive to scuba diving, after years of experiencing the east coast life and ocean waters. Because of her love of books, she immediately visited the local libraries. One month later her attraction to the Oceanside Public Library was solidified. “OPL has a fabulous collection, range of programs and obvious commitment to every part of the community. Inclusion matters.” That, from a NYC gal!

Christina is not an ordinary gal in that sense. Her Greek father and Puerto Rican mother were tenacious and stubborn with their girls about reading. “We didn’t have any [with emphasis] books in our house; we were very poor,” says Christina. “But my mother would take us to the library once a week with an old shopping bag for towing our borrowed books back and forth.” She and her sisters were not allowed to watch any television. That was for the father to watch, and news only. Her parents believed wholeheartedly that reading books would make one brilliant. By the time she was nine, Christina recalls that she found librarians inspiring, and always helpful with the subject matter they needed. She came to love the library and books.



Fast forward - to May 2012 - one month after her arrival: Christina decided to put her undergraduate and graduate degrees in English, and her ten years teaching - from elementary to college level - to work by becoming an Oceanside Public Library volunteer! She began cataloguing books, working at the Friends’ Bookstores, serving as a Director on the Friends Board, and tutoring in the Homework Helper program, as well as stocking the Friends-sponsored Little Free Library at The Cup restaurant. There, she has engaged in conversation with kids and their parents who find the Little Free Library great fun (see the article in this issue for more about Little Free Libraries). This opportunity to talk with parents and their children is “an awesome way to engage and help when least expected.” In June 2013 she began volunteering with the READS Literacy Center as a tutor for adults. She thinks READS is unique. “With adults you are working with someone who wants to learn a lot right away; there is an urgency. Whereas with youth, they wonder why do I need to learn this?”

Therein is the challenge and the beauty within the challenge - the process of lifelong learning. “ I don’t have a lot of money to give but I can give my time. OPL is amazing and undervalued. It may not always be here if it’s not supported.” We don’t know when she finds time for scuba diving, but we are pleased and honored she finds time for all of us.

PS: It was indeed an honor to talk with each of these incredible women. I appreciated, and was humbled, to have them share so openly their lives, their feelings and their beliefs. There was a 70’s song, *Make Me Want to Holler* (stand up and shout!): Our community at large is fortunate to have them with us and this is a shout out to them.

Speaking of volunteering...

Help reduce the list of adults waiting to learn to read. **Learn to tutor at:**



If you can read this, you are not stuck. You can read medicine labels, job applications, recipe directions, menus, your children’s homework, road signs...not to mention great books. But for those who are stuck in the world of illiteracy, these are monumental tasks and huge barriers to surviving. Hard to imagine, isn’t it? Hard to imagine not ever having read a book or making a shopping list or reading your mail or finding your doctor’s office or using a computer. The list goes on. But you can help.

Oceanside READS, the free adult literacy program of

the Oceanside Public Library, provides tutors for people in the community who are struggling with this very issue. Currently, the challenge of recruiting tutors is greater than ever. Everyone is busy. However, if you have earned a high school diploma or GED and have the desire to help, the literacy program can use you—whatever your profession is or was. Free training is provided.

Love to read? Help someone else to love it, too. Call Oceanside READS at (760)435-5680.

You can change a person’s life. Forever.

oplfriends.org

Little Free Libraries

A Story of Persistence and Success
by Tom Frankum

A while back I read of a movement sweeping the nation called Little Free Libraries (LFL). Fascinating! Look it up. I had a stack of scrap lumber in my back yard so I built a little library! I thought one day I will find a place for it. My preferred location was near the middle school just up the street from our home. I called the school asking for ten minutes with their principal to explain my plan. No response, called again, got an appointment, then got a call canceling the appointment. Had visions of going before the school board, all kinds of red tape. Put the project on hold, but I could use the shop space for other projects.

I am on the Board of the The Friends of Oceanside Public Library. We run several very successful used Book Sales. I was reluctant to bring up my LFL campaign, thinking the reaction might go something like this... "we make most of our money selling used books and you want us to give away books?! Get out!" I decided to chance it anyway. The reaction was immediate and surprising! They went for it, the Friends of the Library want to be sponsors and they are suggesting several other locations.

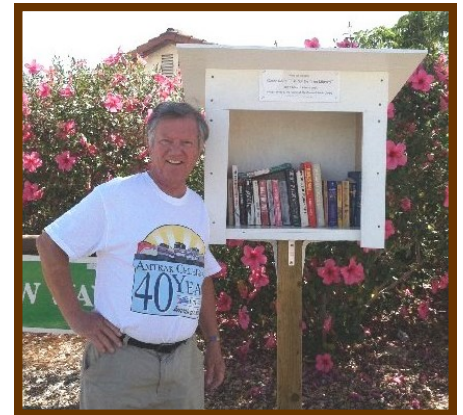
After that success I was bold! That very same night I brought up the idea at our Homeowner's Association Board Meeting. This Board tends to be dominated by one retired military member, and I expected his reaction to be something like, "It will never last. It will be vandalized, we want nothing to

do with it." To my surprise he remained silent. The rest of the Board seemed positive, but no official action was taken. A few days later on their regular "walkabout" inspection I tagged along. At one point I found myself with the military guy when my jaw dropped in surprise as he pointed and said, "Here is where I want you to put your Library." After doing my laundry, I hurriedly borrowed a post hole digger and installed my first Little Free Library! Best of all, it is in front of the middle school and not on school property so there are no jurisdiction issues. What could be better than encouraging people to read in such a convenient way? Especially young people!

Follow up... This library has been up and functioning now for three months with lots of activity. I have built and installed a second one at *The Cup*, a local coffee shop off Coast Highway, also very active. I have pending requests for at least three others. All are made from mostly re-purposed wood in my shop at my home. Life is good!!

Tom Frankum and his first Little Free Library located near Cesar Chavez Middle School

The Libraries are based on the "take a book, leave a book" premise."



Memorial, Honorarium and Gift Book Donations August • September, 2014

In Memory of Floyd Burgess

Autocourse Official History of the Indianapolis 500

In Memory of Iris Carson

Essential Sewing Reference Tool
Let's Sew Together
Quilting With a Modern Slant

In Memory of Jerry Haxall

Flight: 100 Greatest Aircraft

In Memory of Ana Jones

Cash Donation for Oceanside READS Literacy Program
Cash Donation for Oceanside READS Literacy Program
Cash Donation for Oceanside READS Literacy Program
Cash Donation for Oceanside READS Literacy Program

In Memory of Walt Taylor

Cash Donation for Oceanside READS Literacy Program

Donated by:

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Mary Ellen Reese
Frans and Janice Weits

Frans and Janice Weits

Our Bookstores: When Less is More

We are having a very good response at the Farmers Market and making lots of money!

We've put different products on sale: paperbacks for 25¢, 50¢, \$1. CDs-\$1, DVDs-\$2. Children's books are half price. Our usual sale of books with dots are available during the month for half price, \$1 or 50¢. The reason we can sell our products at less expensive prices is because our donations have increased. Less is more!

Also, Main Street Oceanside, the operators of the Farmers Market, have finally removed the barrier in front of us which consisted of a solid wall of canopies, shielding us from the sight of people browsing on the other side. Now we have a space that can be seen.

We are very grateful to the men who help us move the carts from the Library to our space in the mornings. Thank you! We currently need help breaking down at the Market's close. There are eight volunteers selling the books, but some of the women work half shifts, so we can still use a few more helping hands.

Our customers are pleasant, we enjoy ourselves, and although we know California needs the rain we always hope it never rains on Thursday.

Mission Branch Bookstore

Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers who keep the MBL Bookstore open and operating. Thanks also to the patrons who support us, and keep us in business. We are always in need of volunteers, so please contact Cheri Noel at 760-435-5564 if you are interested in a rewarding volunteer opportunity.

Keep in Touch with the Friends

oplfriends.org



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Readers Corner

By Stephanie Zindren, Librarian

Looking for a new book to read? Look no further. Here are some of my suggestions for diving into a great new book.

Books to Read Now



Bad Feminist by Roxanne Gay – Gay's collection of essays are a breath of fresh air, spanning politics, criticism and feminism.

Big Little Lies by Liane Moriarty – A new book by the author of *The Husband's Secret* promises a great read for fans. *Big Little Lies* will make you think twice about the lies we tell every day, most importantly to ourselves.



The Bone Clocks by David Mitchell – For fans of epic books that make you think, David Mitchell's newest book should delight. According to *Esquire* "David Mitchell is a genre-bending, time-leaping, world-traveling, puzzle-making, literary magician, and *The Bone Clocks* is one of his best books."



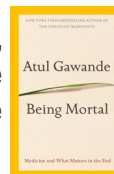
The Girls from Corona Del Mar by Ruffi Thorpe – Taking place not too far north of Oceanside, *The Girls from Corona Del Mar* traces a powerful friendship between two girls from their early years through the trials of their adulthood.



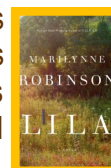
The Vacationers by Emma Straub – Summer doesn't have to end yet. Emma Straub's second novel takes place on the island of Mallorca, over the course of an American family's two week stay. Read this excellent novel to extend your vacation just a little longer.

Books to Look Out For

Being Mortal by Atul Gawande – In *Being Mortal*, author Atul Gawande brings his surgeon's eye to the ways in which we can not only live better but also the process of its ending.



Lila by Marilynne Robinson – Revisiting the places she wrote about in *Gilead* and *Home*, Robinson gives us the story of Lila, homeless and alone, who settles in a small Iowa town. Here she meets a man who will change her life forever.





Founded in 1971 as a non-profit organization, the mission of the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library is to support and promote the services and resources of the Oceanside Public Library through community involvement, volunteer activities, and fundraising. The organization maintains a membership of persons interested in the Library, sponsors special programs and cultural events for both children and adults, and works to enhance the Library's collection and facilities.

A Non-Profit 501(C)(3) Organization • Federal Tax ID # 23-7149765 • State Tax ID # D0632215

Friends of the Library Present the Annual

***HOLIDAY HOME TOUR
AND GIFT BOUTIQUE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14***

***TOUR HOURS: 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
LIBRARY & BOUTIQUE OPEN UNTIL 5:00 P.M.***

Tour premier homes decked out for the holidays and enjoy special bonus stops along the way, as well as refreshments at *Fairwinds - Ivey Ranch*. Stop at the Civic Center Library to receive a free *Opportunity Drawing* ticket and to scope out the *Silent Auction* goodies, then visit the *Gift Boutique* for convenient holiday shopping!

Entertainment is scheduled throughout the day, so make sure you don't miss your favorite act!

TICKETS ARE \$20

**and can be purchased with check or cash
at the Civic Center or Mission Branch Library.
Credit card purchases are available online at
<https://2014holidayhometour.eventbrite.com/>**

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