



DIAMOND BAR

FRIENDS *of the* LIBRARY

*Serving the  
community  
since 1977*

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## January 2026 E-Newsletter

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### President's Message



Dear Friends,

Welcome 2026 and Happy New Year! The Friends of the Library are excited about this new year and for all that is being planned.

The Wine Soiree Planning Committee are already at work planning for the 32nd Annual Wine Soiree. It will be held at the Diamond Bar Center on Sunday, June 7th – Save the date! Co-chairs Dennis Giardina, Lee Mao and I are thrilled about this year's theme: Sippin' on the Ritz. We plan to make this fundraiser for the library the best party of the year, and are welcoming new volunteers to help us.

Our community reading program, Read Together Diamond Bar, is planned for April. The goal is for everyone in our city to read one book and participate in fun activities related to that book. Chair Julia Gomez reports on many of the fun activities in this newsletter.

If you haven't met our Community Librarian Manager Cynthia Yu in person yet, you can meet her in our newsletter this month. Cynthia loves books and people and is very dedicated to our library. Thank you, Cynthia!

And a special Thank You to Bookstore Manager Rosette Clippinger and her team of volunteers at the Friends of the Library Bookstore. They received, cleaned, categorized, organized, shelved, and sold thousands of books in 2025. They welcomed community visitors and shoppers to our store, helped customers find

interesting books, and supported our library all year long. Thank you to all our bookstore volunteers.

Please join our efforts to support our Diamond Bar Library. Our membership chair Lee Mao is eager to share information with you!

Sincerely,

Susan Pantages  
Diamond Bar Friends of the Library President

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## Meet our Librarian – Cynthia Yu



When you visit the Diamond Bar Library, you will notice that librarians are stationed at their workstations, that staff are busy helping customers check out items or shelving books and CDs, that the library is neat and well stocked, and that everyone there is using and enjoying the library. What you see is the work of our Community Library Manager – Cynthia Yu.

Soft-spoken and understated, Cynthia Yu has served as our Library Manager since 2023. But her work in Diamond Bar started in 2015 when she was a teen and adult services librarian. In 2019, she accepted a promotion as Children's Librarian Manager at the Rowland Heights Library. But happily, she returned to Diamond Bar in 2022 and was promoted to Community Library Manager in 2023.

Ms. Yu grew up loving books. Maybe it was because her mother was a teacher in Taiwan. Cynthia graduated with a B.A. in Library Science from National Taiwan University and later earned an M.S. degree from San Jose State in Library and Information Science. She enjoys being a librarian because she can connect people with the resources that they need. Her reward for a job well done is the smile on the face of the patron she has helped.

Cynthia says that the library is more than just a place to house books. The library is dedicated to serving the community as an information hub, with digital resources to help them meet their needs. When asked about the difference in getting answers from a librarian compared to getting answers from the internet, Cynthia smiles, and says that answers and information from a librarian have been vetted.

Under Ms. Yu's leadership, the Diamond Bar Library had the most patron visits and most items checked out in Los Angeles County in 2025. Cynthia manages 19 staff members at the DB Library and a volunteer program for teens who are over 14 years old. She and her staff create special programs for babies, children, teens, and adults every month, changing the themes with the seasons and with holidays and cultural celebrations. Summer is the busiest time of the year at the library, with summer reading programs and internships.

Even though thousands of patrons visit the Diamond Bar Library every month, the library is a place where you can visit and relax, find and read a book (paper or digital), read a magazine or newspaper, learn a skill, use the Wi-Fi, discover a new hobby, or make a new friend. All these things make our librarian Cynthia Yu smile.

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## **December Snapshots from the Library**

### **Winter Holiday Family Sing Along**





Hug in A Mug





**Noon Year Countdown**





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## January Events and Programs at the Library

Our library celebrates the New Year with programs that connect babies, children, artists, and our library's digital collection. The Friends of the Library are pleased to bring these special programs and exciting classes to the Diamond Bar Library in January 2026. Join us!



**Smarty Pants Story Time** is back! On **Wednesdays, January 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th from 10:15–10:45 AM**, let's get ready for school. Enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and movement while learning school readiness skills and having fun. This program is especially for ages 2 – 5 with their parent or caregiver.

**Fiber Arts Meetup** crafts again! On **Thursdays January 8th and 22nd from 1-2:30 PM**, come and get crafty with us. Whether you crochet, knit, embroider, or otherwise work with fiber, bring your project and work with other fiber artists. And make a new friend or two as well. This program is for adults.

**Smart Start, Baby Band** makes music! Come play with us on **Friday, January 9th from 10:15-10:45 AM!** Did you know that music helps your baby's brain make more learning connections, build fine and gross motor skills, and teach social skills? Play time is music time!

Learn new ways to get around our digital library. **Digital Drop-In: Libby & Hoopla** are here to help. Come in on **Monday, January 12th at 1 PM** and have a librarian lead you through the process of downloading free eBooks, audiobooks, and music. For Adults.

Cozy up at **Pajama Storytime** on **Thursday, January 15th from 6:45-7:15 PM**. Bring your jammies and blanket and join us for a mellow evening of stories, songs, and rhymes. Don't forget your favorite stuffy!

Go [here](#) for a full list of programs this month!

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Look for Read Together Diamond Bar month in April 2026. Read Together Diamond Bar is an innovative, month-long annual program to unite people of all ages and backgrounds and encourage reading at the same time. Many cities, large and small, hold successful One City-One Book programs, including Diamond Bar. Please look for more details in future emails and join us in April.

Do you have a suggestion for a book or a theme for Read Together Diamond Bar? You can email us [here](#) with your thoughts and suggestions. For more information, visit our website [here](#) or text (909) 967-3954.

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## Four Seasons Book Group

The Four Seasons Book Group is the quarterly book discussion organized by the Friends of the Library to discuss a wide range of books. You do not need to have read the book to participate—everyone is welcome. Come and join us and bring a friend or two.

For our upcoming **January 31st** meeting we have chosen a book titled *Custodians Of Wonder: Ancient Customs, Profound Traditions, and the People Keeping Them Alive*, by Eliot Stein. This is a non-fiction book with a broad appeal and something different from what we usually choose. The book is a vivid look at 10 astonishing people who are maintaining some of the world's oldest and rarest cultural traditions. Our librarian, Cynthia Yu, has ordered copies of the book for us in the library. Please read more about *Custodians of Wonder* below:

“Eliot Stein’s quietly powerful new book celebrates the kind of singular, site-specific expertise that’s endangered by globalization and technology...smart, genial and occasionally astonishing...it’s a country mile from the news cycle, a winning collection of thoroughly un-current events.” -*SF Chronicle*

We hope you can join us for a discussion of this remarkable and informative book on **Saturday, January 31st at 11 AM in the DB Library Windmill Room.**

The Four Seasons quarterly meetings are being held at the Diamond Bar Library on a Saturday morning at 11 AM. Please mark your calendars!

- Winter     January 31 at the Windmill Room

- Spring April 18 at the Friends' Garden
- Summer July 25 at the Windmill Room
- Fall November 14 at the Windmill Room

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## Save the Date – Sunday, June 7th, 2026

Mark your calendars for the best party of the year, the Annual Wine Soiree on **Sunday, June 7th, 2026 from 3- 7 PM**. Join us as we will be *Sipping on the Ritz* at the Diamond Bar Center.



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**Become a Member!**



Please be a "Friend" of the Diamond Bar Library and join today! Your contribution will support programs, materials, and improvements for the Diamond Bar Library.

### **Membership Dues:**

\$10 -Individual (Yearly)

\$15 -Family (Yearly)

\$250 -Lifetime

\$350 -Lifetime Family

Click [here](#) to make a membership contribution.

Membership dues may be tax deductible as permitted by law, tax ID 95-4611640.

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## **Our Bookstore**



Check out our \$5-a-bag section! You can fill up a bag of books for just \$5.

Come in and browse our specially priced book sets. They make great gifts or collectors' items!

Every season we will have a special themed basket for one lucky customer to win! Visit our bookstore and receive an entry ticket to win the basket. One ticket per transaction can be entered into the opportunity drawing.

**Congratulations to Lawrence Hu, the winner of the winter holiday basket!**



**Come visit us inside the Diamond Bar Library!**

We are open Monday-Saturday 11 AM-5 PM.

Diamond Bar Library  
 21800 Copley Drive  
 Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
 Bookstore: (909) 612-0276

## Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, January 31st at 11 AM: Four Seasons Book Discussion**  
*Custodians Of Wonder: Ancient Customs, Profound Traditions, and the*

*People Keeping Them Alive*, by Eliot Stein. Inside the DB Library Windmill Room.

- **Sunday, June 7, 2026 at 3-7 PM: 32nd Annual Wine Soiree & Benefit Auction.** Mark your calendars for the best party of the year! Join us as we will be *Sipping on the Ritz* at the Diamond Bar Center.

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Consider making a gift to support the Diamond Bar Library. Funds will go towards library programs, new books and media, capital improvements, and more.

MAKE A DONATION TO THE FRIENDS



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