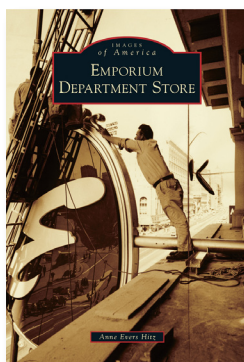




EVENTS & SPECIAL PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHT



Wednesday, January 14, 6:00 pm

Emporium Department Store (Arcadia) ANNE EVERS HITZ

If you enjoyed the BBC Masterpiece series *Mr Selfridge*, about American entrepreneur Harry Selfridge and the creation of London's first department store, or if you enjoyed the recent discussion of Walter Benjamin's social theories from *The Arcades* about commodity capitalism – have we got a program for you! Author and freelance writer **Anne Evers Hitz** has gathered together images from libraries and private collections to tell the story of this major shopping destination on San Francisco's Market Street.

Details and photos on page 2

BI-ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING



Thursday, December 4

5:30 pm Reception; 6:00 pm Meeting

Join us for our bi-annual Members' Meeting! Meet our new Executive Director

Ralph Lewin and celebrate the Institute's 160th year with a special lecture on MI's founding and first five years by Librarian

Taryn Edwards.

Members' and Guests Free.



LIBRARY

Reference USA: Company and Consumer Data

CRAIG JACKSON,

COLLECTIONS MANAGER LIBRARIAN

Are you trying to find a school, dry cleaner, or other service within a 10 mile radius of your home? Do you need to create a marketing plan? Are you curious about the demographic details of your new neighborhood? Have you lost your Aunt Amy's address?



For answers to these questions look no further than Reference USA, a database subscribed to by the Library and available to you remotely at home.

(continued on page 6)

WRITERS' MIXER



Thursday, January 15, 6:00 pm

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Are you interested in joining a writers' group or connecting with other MI writers? Come to this networking hour and learn about the writers' groups that are currently looking for new members and meet other writers that are interested in forming a group. **Members' only; Free.**

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Authors' Carnival	7

EVENTS & SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Attend these intimate and up close author programs and engage directly with local, national, and internationally known writers talking about their newly released books. - LAURA SHEPPARD, EVENTS DIRECTOR

JANUARY 2015 PREVIEW

On the Street Where You Live - A San Francisco Series

As the Mid-Market area goes through vast transformation with the construction of MUNI's Central Corridor and Central Subway, and a new intermingling of arts, theatre, and technology companies moving in or moving back—the revitalization of this major intersection will have an important impact on the City. This series looks back at the icons of Market Street and opens discussion about urban design and commerce for the future.



Wednesday, January 14, 6:00 pm

Emporium Department Store (Arcadia) ANNE EVERS HITZ

The Emporium—"California's Largest, America's Grandest Store"—was a major shopping destination on San Francisco's Market Street for a century, from 1896 to 1996. Patrons could find anything at the Emporium, from jewelry to stoves, and it was a meeting place for friends to enjoy tea while listening to the Emporium Orchestra. Founded in 1897 as the Emporium and Golden Rule Bazaar, the store flourished until the disastrous 1906 earthquake. Once it re-opened in 1908, it dominated shopping downtown until mid-century. Today it is the site of the Westfield Mall.



Anne Evers Hitz is a fifth-generation San Franciscan, and a great-great granddaughter of one of the Emporium's founders, F. W. Dohrmann. She fondly remembers the old store, the "grand dame" of Market Street. Anne has had her own communications consulting firm in San Francisco for over 20 years. She also worked as publicity director for the University of California Press and as editorial assistant at publishers Oxford University Press and Farrar, Straus & Giroux in New York. **Members Free; Public \$15**



Upcoming:

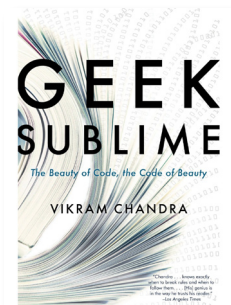
On Track: A Field Guide to San Francisco's Streetcars and Cable Cars (Heyday) RICK LAUBSCHER, PRESIDENT OF THE MARKET STREET RAILWAY

Wednesday, January 28, 6:00 pm

Geek Sublime: The Beauty of Code, The Code of Beauty (Graywolf) VIKRAM CHANDRA

Vikram Chandra has been a computer programmer for almost as long as he has been a novelist. In his first work of nonfiction, he searches for the connections between the worlds of art and technology. Coders are obsessed with elegance and style, just as writers are, but do the words mean the same thing to both? Can we ascribe beauty to the craft of writing code?

Exploring such varied topics as logic gates and literary modernism, the machismo of tech geeks, the omnipresence of an "Indian Mafia" in Silicon Valley, and the writings of the eleventh-century Kashmiri thinker Abhinavagupta, *Geek Sublime* is both an idiosyncratic history of coding and a fascinating meditation on the writer's art. Part literary essay, part technology story, and part memoir, it is an engrossing, original, and heady book of sweeping ideas.



© Melanie Abrams 2012

Vikram Chandra is the author of three highly acclaimed works of fiction, including *Sacred Games*, which won the 2006 Hutch Crossword Award, *Red Earth and Pouring Rain*, and *Love and Longing in Bombay: Stories*. Chandra is a Senior Lecturer of Creative Writing in the English Department at the University of California, Berkeley. **Members Free; Public \$15**

CINEMALIT

CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX

Fridays: Cafe 5:30 pm; Program 6:00 pm.

Members Free; Public \$10

JANUARY 2015 PREVIEW

CRIME & PUNISHMENT THE FILMS OF CLAUDE CHABROL



Friday, January 9

***La Femme Infidèle* (1969)**

Special guest: Dr. Kevin Elstob, President of the Sacramento French Film Festival

DIRECTED BY CLAUDE CHABROL

Stephane Audran, Michel Bouquet

This tense thriller examines the fine print in the marriage contract when a man suspects his wife of cheating.



Friday, January 16

***This Man Must Die* (1969)**

DIRECTED BY CLAUDE CHABROL

Jean Yanne, Caroline Cellier

The father of a boy killed by a hit-and-run driver seeks revenge in this damning portrait of bourgeois domesticity.



Friday, January 23

***La Cérémonie* (1995)**

DIRECTED BY CLAUDE CHABROL

Isabel Huppert, Sandrine Bonnaire

Working-class gals hone a grudge against a wealthy family in Chabrol's transposition of Ruth Rendell's *Judgment in Stone* to rural Brittany.

Watch for details about February's month dedicated to the films of Nick Nolte!

Information & registration: 415.393.0100 or milibrary.org/events.

All events are held in the 4th floor Meeting Room and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.



Your support makes for a meaningful holiday gift

You may know the feeling – finding a home in the Mechanics' Institute, in the conversations, the quiet, the books, the chess room. In today's society, such places can be hard to find and are worth our support.

Donate today. Please deepen your commitment this year with a gift that will celebrate all that Mechanics' stands for and ensures that it will be here for future generations.

Your gift allows us to purchase the books that spark your imagination, to introduce children to the playful and sometimes profound world of chess, and to bring together people for conversations of depth and beauty.

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To donate visit:
milibrary.org/give

Or:

To donate or purchase a gift membership contact Margot Sheffner at 415.393.0105 or membership@milibrary.org

We are truly grateful and honored by your generosity.

CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY



Tuesday, December 2, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

First Tuesday TED Talk

4th Floor Meeting Room

Topic: Andrew Connolly - What's the Next Window into Our Universe?

Bring your lunch and curiosity to talk about ideas, stories, and concepts with fellow Mechanics' Institute members and staff. This month we'll watch a video from March 2014 of Andrew Connolly talking about the large amounts of data being collected about our universe. An informal discussion will follow the viewing.

Walk-ins Welcome.



Thursday, December 4, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Value Line Investment Survey: New Platform, New Content

Value Line's redesigned platform is a dynamic, digitally-based product with many new features and new content to

assist in making investment decisions. Learn how the new design makes greater usage of lists for site navigation, and indicates more clearly the factors that users are most interested in. Value Line continues to provide its proprietary content which includes ranks for timeliness, safety, and financial strength, plus feature articles and analysts' commentaries. Attendees will familiarize themselves with the revamped stock screener to generate a focused list of companies. Long-time users of Value Line will be shown how they can still access the traditional single-page company reports.

Registration Required.

**Tuesday, December 9, 12:00 - 1:00 pm or
5:00 - 6:00 pm**

Email Drop-In Help

Do you have questions about using email, such as: sending email attachments, printing your emails, managing your email contacts, or any other email-related question? Come to one of our drop-in sessions for one-on-one help with all of your email-related questions. We can answer questions about most email providers, including Gmail, Yahoo, and Hotmail. One-on-one help is limited to 10 minutes per session for each member.

Walk-ins Welcome.



Thursday, December 11, 5:00 - 6:00 pm

Excel Basics

Whether you are seeking to learn spreadsheet skills or trying to upgrade to a new version of Excel, this class will provide you with the basic tools to start using Excel immediately. Learn about creating a basic spreadsheet, customizing its appearance, and using basic formulas. If you have a laptop running Excel, feel free to bring it to class. Library laptops will be available on a first-come-first-served basis.

Registration Required.



Thursday, December 18, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Hoover's: Search the World's Largest Business Directory

Looking for timely business information, developing a list of key contacts for sales or as a potential employer, researching competitive intelligence, or grasping industry developments? Discover the resourcefulness of Hoover's in handling these topics. The company and industry coverage is truly international in scope, with extensive research, analysis, and descriptive summaries and profiles for some twenty million North American public and private companies, as well as non-profits. Sample searches will show the breadth of information available using Hoover's, such as a company's products, services, and business news, its subsidiaries and competitors, financial data, news stories, and lists of company officers. Learn how to generate a list of companies that meet user-specified filter criteria, based on some combination of location, industry, size, financials and performance.

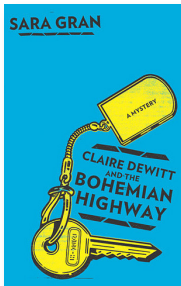
Registration Required.



Information and registration: 415.393.0102 or milibrary.org/events/learn. All classes are held in the 3rd floor classrooms and require advance registration unless otherwise noted.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Our members only Book Groups select, read, and discuss books of a particular type or genre. Members lead the discussions, new members are always welcome, and registration is not required (unless otherwise specified). **Please note that Book Groups are not author events and the authors will not be present during the discussions.**



Monday, December 8, Noon

Claire DeWitt & the Bohemian Highway

by SARA GRAN

Brown Bag Mystery Readers

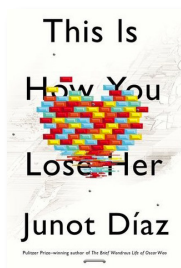
When Claire DeWitt's ex-boyfriend Paul Casablanco, a musician, is found dead in his Mission District house, Claire is on the case. Paul's wife and the police are sure Paul was killed for his valuable collection of vintage guitars. But Claire, the best detective in the world, has other ideas. Even as her other cases offer hints to Paul's fate—a missing girl in the grim East Village of the 1980s and an epidemic of missing miniature horses in Marin County—Claire knows: the truth is never where you expect it, and love is the greatest mystery of all. (courtesy of ipage.ingramcontent.com) **Members Only. Walk-ins Welcome.**



Wednesday, December 10 & 17, 5:30 pm

The Proust Society of America: San Francisco Chapter

Under the leadership of Dr. Mark Calkins, Mechanics' Institute offers two bi-weekly discussion groups, on a semester basis. **The Proust Group** discusses Proust's *In Search of Lost Time*, vol.1 (*Swann's Way*), from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. From 6:45 – 8:00 pm, the **World Literature Group** discusses Proustian-inspired works, beginning the semester with Shakespeare's *Anthony & Cleopatra*. The new semester began on September 10th, and these groups are now **closed to additional registrations**. For more information, contact Dr. Calkins at mark@tempsperdu.com or Diane Lai at dlai@milibrary.org.



Tuesday, December 16, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

This Is How You Lose Her

BY JUNOT DÍAZ

Literature in Brief – Short Stories

A Pulitzer Prize winner turns his prodigious talent to the haunting, impossible power of love. Hilarious and devastating, raucous and tender, these stories lay bare the infinite longing and inevitable weaknesses of our all-too-human hearts. (courtesy of amazon.com) **Members Only. Registration required.**



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flic.krp7WgBCp

Tuesday, December 16, Noon

Potpourri of Favorites

Fiction You Wish You Had Read

Our annual Potpourri of Favorites meeting is our members' chance to share their favorite fiction titles from the previous year. Bring one or two of your favorite fiction books and be prepared to give a short synopsis of what makes the book a favorite of yours!

Information & registration: Diane Lai at 415.393.0118, dlai@milibrary.org, or milibrary.org/events/book-group-meetings. A copy of each book is available at the 2nd floor Circulation desk. All Book Discussions are held in the 4th floor Board Room.

Chess

INTERNATIONAL MASTER

JOHN DONALDSON, DIRECTOR OF THE CHESS ROOM

Members of the Mechanics' Institute U.S. Chess League shined in the 2014 World Youth Championships, held September 18th to 30th in Durban, South Africa. Rayan Taghizadeh of Palo Alto won the bronze medal in the Boys under 12 category, while Vignesh Panchanatham of Cupertino just finished out of the medals, tying for fourth in the Boys under 14. A third member of the Mechanics' team, 11-year-old Hans Niemann of Orinda, scored a very respectable 6 points from 11 games in the Boys under 12. Mechanics' Institute Grandmaster-in-Residence Nick de Firmian served as one of the US national team coaches, a position he has held for many years.

Tuesday Night Events

December 2, 9, 16

5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

LECTURE BY JOHN DONALDSON

6:30 pm - 10:30 pm

Fall Tuesday Night Marathon



Rayan Taghizadeh

Wednesday Night Blitz

December 3, 10, 17

6:30 pm - 8:50 pm

DIRECTED BY JULES JELINEK



Vignesh Panchanatham

Tournaments

Saturday, December 6

10:00 am - 8:00 pm

14th Annual Guthrie McClain Memorial G/45

Saturday Morning Chess Class for Kids

December 6, 13, 20, 27

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

TAUGHT BY INTERNATIONAL MASTER ELLIOTT WINSLOW

Chess for Women

Sundays, December 7, 14, 21, 28

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

TAUGHT BY EWELINA KRUBNIK

Funded by a gift in memory of R. Martin Wiskemann

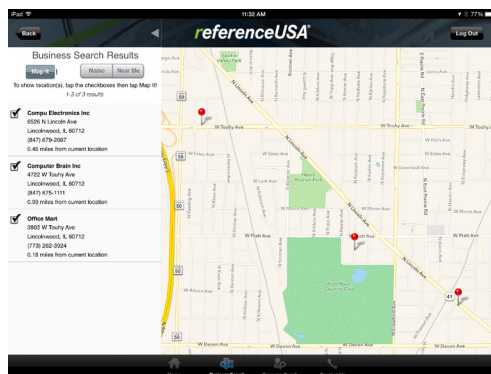


Information & reservations: 415.393.0110 or chessclub.org.

Reference USA (continued from page 1)

Reference USA is a business and residential directory that indexes data pulled from over 5,000 public sources: telephone directories, annual reports, SEC filings, and federal, state, and municipal government sources.

It contains listings for over 20 million companies includes data such as contact information, key executive names, business size, sales volume, expenditures, franchise and brand information, liens, judgments, bankruptcies, and credit rating. Reference USA also contains information on over 222 million consumers culling data from "white page directories", public utilities, the U.S. census, and other government sources. No unlisted phone numbers or addresses are included however.



Upon performing a search, Reference USA allows one to manipulate the data to best serve your needs; providing you with the ability to create tailored lists and spreadsheets that you can open in Excel or drop into an Access file.

All in all, Reference USA is a brilliant marketing tool and reference resource for the small business person, consumer, or curious individual. Ask a librarian for a tutorial or call the Library to find out when a class will next be offered - 415.393.0102.

Easy Access Computer Workstation

DEB HUNT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR & SEAD SEHOVIC, IT MANAGER

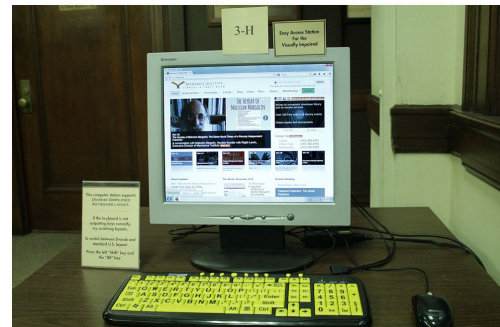
The Library has a new easy access computer workstation, 3H, next to the classrooms on the 3rd floor.

This easy access workstation allows for magnifying text on the screen and also for switching between the QWERTY and Simplified Dvorak keyboard systems.

Instructions are located at the workstation. The features which differ from the other member public computers, include:

- large, easy-to-read keyboard
- keyboard shortcut that allows changes between the US standard QWERTY and the Dvorak keyboards
- larger default text size on the Firefox web browser
- visible passwords when members enter their 14 digit barcode
- primarily white, non-distracting screen background
- desktop shortcut to the Windows 7 magnifying tool

Just as with our other public computer workstations, if all the other ones are in use, the current user will be logged out when s/he reaches the end of the session. If there are any other computers free, the member can log back on.



AUTHORS' CARNIVAL

Readings, workshops, and camaraderie in celebration of our members' creative achievements

In celebration of the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE) Centennial in 2015, the Mechanics' Institute will be hosting a yearlong series of author events, lectures, expert panels, walking tours and exhibits of our PPIE ephemera from our collection and other sources including books, programs, postcards and memorabilia.



Panorama: Tales From San Francisco's 1915 Pan-Pacific International Exposition by Lee Bruno (Author Program)

Thursday, January 22, 6:00 pm

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Join us and MI member author **Lee Bruno** in our first PPIE Centennial event. Lee Bruno will present his new book *Panorama* - a collection of essays on the Exposition's key players, celebrities and guests. Expect marvelous visuals and riveting stories! **Members & Public Free.**

Information and registration: milibrary.org/events, or Taryn Edwards at 415.393.0103, or tedwards@milibrary.org.



57 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94104
www.milibrary.org

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Library Hours
 Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 9 pm
 Friday: 9 am - 6 pm
 Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm
 Sunday: 1 pm - 5 pm

Sarah Cruz, Editor

HOLIDAY GATHERING

Thursday, December 11
 5:30 - 7:00 pm
 2nd Floor Library

Join members and friends for some holiday cheer and lively conversation while relaxing to musical interludes. Enjoy gourmet cheeses and hors d'oeuvres, delectable desserts and tempting libations!

Admission \$10 – Open to Members & Guests
 ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
 Call 415.393.0100 or online milibrary.org/events



ANNUAL BOOK SALE

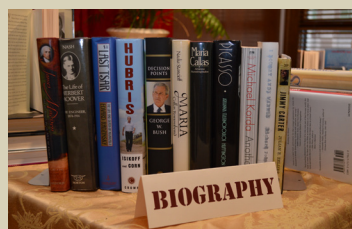
Wednesday, December 3
 11:00 - 4:00 pm

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Holiday shoppers—come and select the perfect gifts for friends, family, colleagues or significant others! A delightful and diverse selection of hard-covers, paperbacks, book art, posters, and MORE will be available for purchase.

The café will be open for refreshments.

Free to all.



Weekly Tours of The Institute

Every Wednesday @ Noon
 begin on the Library's 3rd Floor.
 For more information, please call 415.393.0101.

