



# THE FOPABL HOOT

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO HOOT!



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## Getting A Permanent Library Branch: First Steps Are Underway



Money and location were the main items on the table, along with delicious cookies, at the January 10 meeting of the Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library (FOPABL). “We want a real home,” the books, the computers and the CDs in the Piedmont Avenue Branch all cried out silently as the discussion took place.

Location is a major issue. One suggestion was the Mosswood Community Center at Mosswood and MacArthur, but at its mention, almost every head in the room

could be seen shaking. Too far away. There is a strong desire to keep the new facility within walking distance of the Piedmont Avenue neighborhood.

The simplest move and most convenient site would be the unused Child Development Center next door to the current library, even though it would require purchase from the Oakland Unified School District and then costly renovation.

No matter the location, any purchase or rental will have to be funded. Currently, the Oakland Public Library has no budget to secure a permanent home for our branch so it was agreed FOPABL would undertake this task. It was also agreed the first item on the agenda would be to organize FOPABL as a non-profit. A committee of three has volunteered to research and prepare the documentation necessary to achieve this status.

Around 30 people attended the January 10 meeting. The size of the group shows a stockpile of latent energy to draw upon to save this valuable community resource. Will you attend our next meeting, Saturday, February 23rd 4pm, at the library?

Check [www.fopabl.org](http://www.fopabl.org) for information and come join us!

*by Ruby Long, a neighbor whose work has appeared in local and national publications*



## Great Things Coming!

Thanks to the passage of Measure D in June, the library is busy hiring and making plans for expanded service throughout Oakland. Although we have not finalized plans on expanded hours, we are excited to share another outcome of Measure D: three new e-resource offerings available to patrons using their OPL library cards.

The OPL E-Resources Committee is pleased to announce the availability of **Lynda.com from LinkedIn Learning**, a very popular online learning tutorial tool. Lynda.com offers more than 12,000 video-based training tutorials and professional development courses on business, technology, and new media design.



In addition, the library has renewed its subscription to the digital edition of the **New York Times**, allowing OPL patrons to access the online version of the NYT for free with their library card.

And, on **hoopla**, a platform which allows patrons to download or stream full music albums, audiobooks, ebooks, TV shows, and movies, we've increased our checkout limit from four to eight. You can stream content using the hoopla app, or download content temporarily. All titles are available all the time, so you don't need to wait or place holds.

*Article originally appeared in Off the Shelf (FOPL newsletter for January 2019)*

### **NEW: Use your library card to stream movies!**

With your Oakland Public Library card, you can log in to *Kanopy*, your library's newly available online movie streaming service that will bring free movies to your computer (or other device, including your tv). Check it out at <https://www.kanopy.com>. With you OPL card, you will get four checkouts per month, choosing from thousands of titles—all categorized when you click on "BROWSE".

There is a huge section for kids that has ten subject areas and titles ranging from “Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus” to “Nelson Mandela” to “Kids Can Save the Planet.” *Kanopy’s* website says, “We have partnered with Common Sense Media™ to provide developmentally appropriate age ratings for videos on *Kanopy Kids*.”

The range of titles in the general section is equally broad. New York Times called it “a garden of cinematic delights”. See for yourself at the website and/or ask your librarian for more information.



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## **The Book Worm Recommends**

### **The Children Act by Ian McEwan**

#### **It’s Not Easy to Be a Hardworking Adult**

Fiona Maye is a British High Court Judge in London charged with making difficult decisions, often concerning children’s welfare in this 2014 novel by McEwan. The cases she hears are heartbreaking. Conjoined twins whose separation will require the death of one child, toddlers with parents who are drug addicts, and a child whose family religion prohibits life-saving medical care or causes parental battles. The author shows how the Judge conscientiously struggles to justify her decisions according to British law and the best interests of the child. She is often unsettled and saddened by the incredibly painful situations she seeks to address.

Her own home life is also in turmoil. Her 59-year old husband tells her that she is “not fun” anymore and that he wants her to agree to his having a passionate, temporary affair with a younger woman. How should she respond? How does she feel about turning sixty herself? She reviews with the regret some decisions she has made in her life but also realizes that she still delights in music and the beautiful architecture that surrounds her, and she also enjoys the satisfaction of doing an important job well.

This insightful book demonstrates how hard it is to be an adult with serious responsibilities to one’s work, one’s family, and oneself. We learn a lot about life by accompanying Fiona as she examines a life that is successful in some ways but disappointing in others.

*by Ann. P. McCauley*

*Ann studied Anthropology at Cal and works in international health. She loves stories with sympathetic, wise characters who engage in humorous conversations and travel to exotic places.*

## What's Happening at the Library

### Ongoing Events – every week

**Wednesdays at 10:15 am – Toddler Storytime**

**Wednesdays at 11:00 am – Pre-School Storytime**

**Fridays at 3:30 pm – Build Fridays, Legos & More**

**Saturdays at 10:30 am – Baby Café**

**Saturdays at 2:30 pm – eBook Help**



### Events between January 15 & February 28:

#### **Saturday, January 19 at 3pm - Storybook Science**

Join us for these interesting experiments: take a problem found in a book and use your smarts and skills to determine a solution, and then work to make it even better. Design, build, and test your one-of-a-kind creations. All supplies provided.

#### **Saturday, January 26 at 1pm - Financial Planning for People Who Hate Financial Planning**

Benjamin Packard, of Lula Financial, presents a free 60-minute workshop that gives you a quick crash course in the basics of financial planning. Using stories and simple examples to understand concepts, he will teach you how to start planning for retirement.

#### **Saturday, February 2 at 1pm – All About Chocolate with Barlovento Chocolates**

Join our special guests from Barlovento Chocolates, a family owned and operated specialty chocolate company in Oakland. Each of their products is crafted by hand at every step of their process with premium, ethically sourced ingredients and all their love. You'll learn more about chocolate and their unique creations. You'll get to do some tasting too.

#### **Thursday, February 7 at 3pm – Valentine's Day Craft**

Come and create for one you love!

#### **Saturday, February 9 at 1pm – Berkeley Rep talk: *Metamorphoses***

Berkeley Rep presented Mary Zimmerman's breathtaking *Metamorphoses* at the turn of the millennium, and it later had a Broadway run and garnered her a Tony Award. Join us for a discussion about the play with a Berkeley Rep docent.

**Thursday, February 14 at 3:30pm – Teen Pop Up Program**

Attention all teens: do you like to make crafts? Want to tell us about your favorite book? Please join us every second Thursday of the month. In February join us in a crafty afternoon in the TeenZone! We will be making **stress balls** that you can use to destress. Decorate your own with different faces. All supplies provided.

**Saturday, February 23 at 4pm – Meeting, Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library**

The campaign for a permanent home for our library is gathering momentum. Please join us with your interest and skills. We can make it happen!

Unless noted, all these activities and events take place at the **Piedmont Avenue Branch, 80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611**

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**PIEDMONT AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY**



**OUR BOOKS NEED A PERMANENT HOME!**