

Hercules Library Report, February 2026

Library Programming & Outreach Staff:

Alison Peters, Library Manager
Katy Buder, Children's Librarian
Eric Lee, Library Assistant
Lydia Roybal, Library Assistant
Kayla Etheridge, Clerk Specialist
Ary Rangel, Senior Clerk



20 years of Hercules Library!

On January 16, 2006 - 20 years ago - the City of Hercules officially broke ground on the site that would become Hercules Library. There are so very many people to thank for bringing this library to the community, from City, State and County officials to the Hercules Library Foundation, the Friends of the Hercules Library, Library Commission, tons of local nonprofits and businesses who helped fundraise, and every single citizen who made their voices heard to bring a public library to Hercules. We appreciate everyone who supported this library, celebrated the grand opening, brought their families, and continue to visit, and love, the library to this day.

Please join us all year in celebration of 20 years of Hercules Library!

In Library staffing news: several of our libraries are closing (temporarily!) throughout the next year for periods of time so they can get very necessary deferred maintenance completed. We are happy to welcome staff from Pinole Library to join us in March 2026, when the Pinole branch closes through January 2027. We are also anticipating welcoming Pinole Library patrons to Hercules, and look forward to making new library friends and showing off our beautiful space.

Programs & Activities – Year Round

Children’s Storytime – every Saturday, 10 & 10:30am

Month	Attendees
January	665

Play Pals – 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, 10am

Month	Attendees
January	19

Pajama Storytime – Last Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm

Month	Attendees
January	37

LEGO Builders Club - 1st Thursday of the month, 3pm

Month	Attendees
January	22

Chess Club – 1st Wednesday of the month, 3:30pm

Month	Attendees
January	18

Insiders – 2nd Tuesday of the month, 11:30am (Jan-May/ Sept–Dec)

Month	Attendees
January	No program

Max Meditation – 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6pm

Month	Attendees
January	13

School/Class Visits/Outreach

January 2026: Montessori Preschool	50
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January Programs Review



MLK Healing Drum Circle, Saturday, January 17

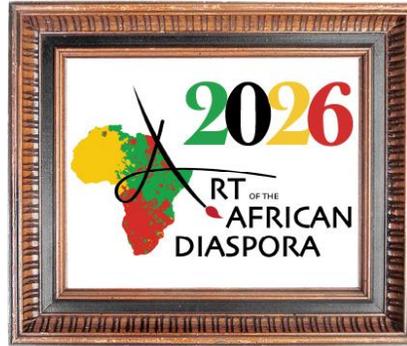
To celebrate the life and spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Hercules Library, we kept his words in our hearts: "True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice." Saturday January 17th was devoted to True Peace, with a healing Sound Bath led by Sakai Parker, and an afternoon of drumming with The Peaceful Warriors, Jorge and Luis. And of course, a storytime themed on being neighborly. ❤️ Thank you to everyone who took part in the day, and to our community of friends, family, and just good people.

Stuffed Sleepover!

While the kids are away, the stuffies will play! A few cuddly friends were dropped off by their humans to enjoy a sleepover at the library. When the library closed, these stuffies got up to some wacky shenanigans. When their kid picked them back up on Friday, they each got to take home a commemorative picture book of their adventures as well. Happy Picture Book Month!



Spotlight On: Black History Month & Lunar New Year



Art of the African Diaspora + Artists Reception

[Art Of The African Diaspora](#) is the longest running event of its kind in the Bay Area. In partnership with [Richmond Art Center](#), the group supports artists of African descent in the Bay Area through representation, professional development, and building a creative community.

Hercules Library is proud to join the community for our second year as a satellite location for artists, with an exhibit open to the public January 15-March 14. From larger than life quilts to photographs and original artwork, we invite you to come by and join us!

And join us for an Artists Reception, **Saturday January 7, 3pm**, celebrating this exhilarating exhibit showcasing African American artists from across the Bay Area.

BLACK CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK
FEBRUARY 22 - 28, 2026

Phelicia Lang Storytime & Craft
Tuesday, February 24, 4:00 p.m.

Phelicia Lang, local educator and author of the Tay and Friends book series, joins us for a Black Children's Book Week storytime! Phelicia will read stories about playful Tay and his science-empowered friend, Aleeayah, kids can enjoy a Tay-related craft, and we'll have free books to give away, too. Perfect for preschool aged children.

TAY AND FRIENDS
By Phelicia Lang M.Ed.
Aleeayah Makes Playdough
Book 3

ccclib.org
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY
Happy Reads all day long!

Black Children's Book Week

Black Children's Book Week – celebrated throughout the month of February in Contra Costa County Libraries – is an annual, global celebration of Black children and the people who ensure Black children are represented in books and other children's media.

Hercules Library is happy to welcome back our friend [Phelicia Lang](#), local educator and author of the [Tay and Friends](#) book series, who joins us for a Black Children's Book Week storytime! Phelicia will read stories about playful Tay and his science-empowered friend, Aleeayah, and kids can enjoy a Tay-related craft, too.

Lunar New Year

Lion Dance & Martial Arts Demonstration

Tuesday, February 10 | 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.



 **20** | **YEAR OF THE**
26 | **HORSE**

Come celebrate Lunar New Year and the Year of the Fire Horse at Hercules Library! Yee's Martial Arts will return again for their annual visit to the library, sharing a lion dance and martial arts demonstration with the community.