



MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE
Since 1854

Non-Profit Member-Supported Library, Chess Club, and Cultural Organization



Hi Tina, Membership benefits include complimentary or reduced pricing at events. **DONATE**, **JOIN** or **RENEW** today.

May CinemaLit: Elizabeth Taylor: Actress and Superstar

Fridays, May 3, 10, 17 & 31 | 6:00 pm | Cafe opens 5:30 pm



Image courtesy of Warner Bros.

May 3

with special guest
Michael Fox



Image courtesy of Paramount Pictures

May 10

with special guest
David Thomson

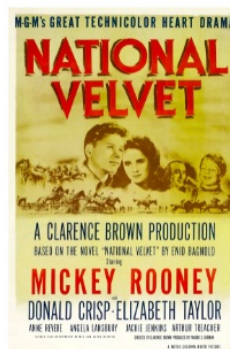


Image courtesy of Warner Bros.

May 17



Image courtesy of Warner Bros.

May 31

ONSITE | Very few embodied the twentieth-century invention of the movie star more than Elizabeth Taylor. CinemaLit curator and host Matthew Kennedy's new book, *On Elizabeth Taylor: An Opinionated Guide* from Oxford University Press, examines and appreciates her epic film career up close. In May, we will be screening four of her most consequential films, each capturing her extraordinary star charisma and powerhouse acting at different phases of her career: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1958), *A Place in the Sun* (1951), *National Velvet* (1944), and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (1966).

Former CinemaLit host Michael Fox will interview Matt Kennedy on May 3 and acclaimed film critic and historian David Thomson will join us on May 10.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Members | Free
Non-Members | \$5

For Members



Wednesday, May 1 | 2:00 pm

Poetry Writers' Group

ONSITE | Inaugural Meeting | Let's meet to write, share, and discuss poetry!
Members Free

[Learn More & Register](#)

Members | **Free**



Monday, April 29 | 1:30 pm

Tech Support Hour

ONSITE | Get tech support from our Community Tech Network Volunteers!

Current DROP-IN Hours:

- Every Monday (with Alexander) from 1:30 pm-2:30 pm
- Third Saturdays (with Anna) from 11:00 am-12:00 pm

[Learn More & Register](#)

Members | **Free**

Thursdays, May 2–June 13 | 5:30 pm

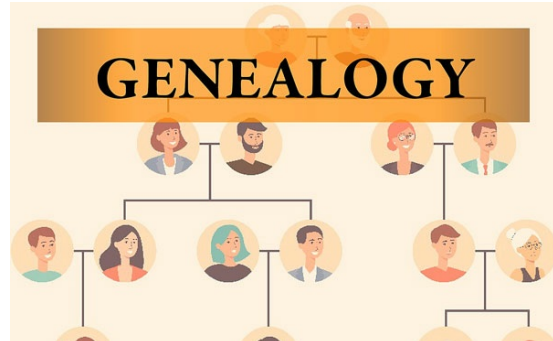
Introduction to Chess Class

with Lead Chess Coach Marcie Yang

ONSITE | Join us—beginner or intermediate player - and learn the fundamentals of the Royal Game.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Members | **Free**



Friday, May 3 | 3:30 pm

Exploring Library Resources for Members: Genealogy Research

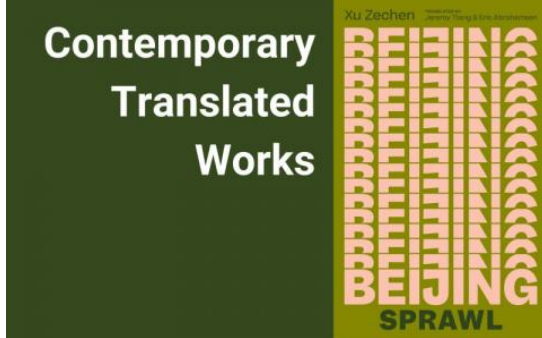
A skillshare series for Members where curiosity knows no bounds, and learning is a shared adventure!

ZOOM | Members will delve into genealogy research methods, sources, and shortcuts with Librarian Steven Dunlap. Discover Bay Area genealogy resources, Ancestry.com search tips, and online research tools. This session marks the beginning of our genealogy skill-share, setting the stage for future discussions on specific topics.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Members | **Free**

Of Interest



Wednesday, May 1 | 12:00 pm

Contemporary Translated Works Book Group: *Beijing Sprawl*

with author Jeremy Tiang

ZOOM | Dive into the rich tapestry of global literature during meeting of the Contemporary Translated Works Book Group, presented in partnership with the [Center for the Art of Translation](#). This literary journey begins with [Beijing Sprawl](#) by Xu Zechen (China), a narrative that invites you to explore the vibrant heart of contemporary Chinese fiction.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Members | Free
Non-Members | \$10

Thursday, May 9 | 6:00 pm

A Revolver to Carry at Night

with author Monika Zgustova in conversation with Sabrina Jaszi

ONSITE | Join author [Monika Zgustova](#) and translator and writer Sabrina Jaszi in conversation on Zgustova's new novel detailing the life of Vera Nabokov, *A Revolver to Carry at Night*.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Members | Free
Non-Members | \$10

More Upcoming For Members, Click [HERE](#).

Thursdays, Ongoing | 11:00 am | Zoom | [Write If You Dare!](#)

Friday, May 3 | 5:00 pm | Onsite | [Chess Social for All](#)

Mondays, May 6 and May 20 | 12:00 pm | Onsite | [Monday Noontime History Series: Dogpatch Ranch - The Origins of a Chinese American Family with Glenn Lym](#)

Wednesdays, May 8-June 12 | 6:00 pm | Onsite | [Weaving Community Through Storytelling Workshop with Kate Farrell](#)

Wednesday, May 8 | 6:00 pm | Hybrid | [World Literature Book Group: *The Real Life of Sebastian Knight* by Vladimir Nabokov](#)

Friday, May 10 | 5:00 pm | Onsite | [Mechanics' Institute Evening Tour](#)

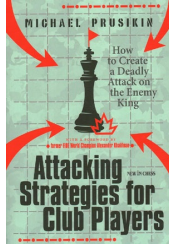
New to Our Collection

[Attacking Strategies for Club Players:](#)

[The Best](#)

[Elizabeth Taylor: a private life for public consumption](#)

**How to
Create a
Deadly
Attack on
the Enemy
King**



by Michael
Prusikin

American Poetry 2023



by Elaine Equi, editor; David
Lehman, series editor

by Ellis
Cashmore



Chess

View Calendar for Upcoming Tournaments, Classes, and Community Engagement

Sundays, Ongoing | 10:00 am | Zoom | Free Women's, Girls', and Gender Expansive Individuals Class

Mondays, Ongoing | 4:00 pm | Zoom | Chess Cafe

Friday, May 3 | 5:00 pm | Onsite | Monthly Chess Social

Saturday, May 4 | 10:00 am | Onsite | 2nd Ray Conway Memorial Tournament

Tuesdays, May 7-June 18 | 6:30 pm | Onsite | Summer Tuesday Night Marathon

Saturday, May 11 | 2:00 pm | Onsite | 18th Annual Steve Brandwein / Ray Schutt / Jay Whitehead
Memorial Blitz

Saturday, May 18 | 10:00 am | Onsite | Opening Intensive with GM Jacek Stopa: Catalan Opening

Saturday, May 18 | 10:00 am | Onsite | Monthly Scholastic Swiss Tournament

Saturday, May 18 | 3:00 pm | Onsite | Monthly Quads Tournament

Chess in the Community

Mechanics' Institute is bringing chess to the community across San Francisco. Come out and join us throughout every week:

Mechanics Monument Plaza

Thursdays | 12:00–1:00 pm

UN Plaza

Sundays | 11:00 am–2:00 pm

Materials provided or feel free to bring your own board. All are welcome! Please note: Chess engagement outdoors is weather permitting.



Learn more at www.milibrary.org.

Support Mechanics' Institute — [DONATE](#), [JOIN](#), or [RENEW](#) today.

Follow us on social media.

Join the conversation and be part of our community today!



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