These programs will be conducted on a virtual platform and are free of charge. Registration and internet access are required to attend. Register on the Library website’s Upcoming Events list to receive emailed information on how to access these programs. The link will be emailed the business day prior to the program between 3:00 and 4:00 pm, after registration closes at noon.

A NOVEL IDEA: VIRTUAL BOOK DISCUSSION AND AUTHOR TALK WITH SUZANNE WOODS FISHER

The Moonlight School
Tuesday, May 4 at 2:00 pm on Zoom —
A Special Time for a Special Author Visit

Lucy Wilson arrives in Rowan County, Kentucky, in the spring of 1911 to work for Cora Wilson Stewart, superintendent of education. When Cora sends Lucy into the hills to act as scribe for the mountain people, she is repelled by the primitive conditions and intellectual poverty she encounters. Few adults can read and write. Inspired by the true events of the Moonlight Schools, this novel brings to life the story that shocked the nation into taking adult literacy seriously.

*Modeted by Stephanie Laurino, Library HQ*
Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 pm on Zoom

Presented by photographer Dick Evans and author Kathy Chin Leong
Moderated by Gregory Yen, RPh, Esq.

Newly-released photo documentary book, *San Francisco's Chinatown*, brings history, culture, tourism, and traditions to life with never-before-seen images. In this dynamic virtual journey, project originator and photographer Dick Evans and *The New York Times* freelance writer Kathy Chin Leong will shed light on a community that has proven to be resilient against all odds.

For two years, Evans scoured the streets taking breathtaking photos, making friendships with merchants and non-profit leaders along the way. This is his third book on San Francisco neighborhoods. A second generation ABC (American-born Chinese) and San Francisco native, Leong partnered with Evans and conducted more than 100 interviews. She often used her elementary Toishan dialect to connect with residents who were, at first, hesitant to talk.

Dick Evans is a San Francisco based photographer with an interest in documenting the colorful and rapidly changing neighborhoods of the city. He has spent his fifty-year career living in five countries and multiple locations in Africa, Europe, and North America. It was during these travels that he developed an appreciation for the diversity and richness of different cultures both global and local, and an interest in documentary photography.

Kathy Chin Leong, a career journalist who grew up in a bi-cultural environment, Chinese at home and American at school, she is typical of many ABCs who struggled with identity issues, eventually learning to embrace their Chinese heritage. While she has traveled the globe she has rediscovered her Chinatown roots through collaboration on this book that has been the journey of a lifetime.

Gregory Yen is Asian-American, a pharmacist, and a lawyer, based in New Jersey. He is highly interested in the Asian-American experience and preserving Asian-American history. As a father to two sons, he knows that one of the best ways important history (such as that captured in *San Francisco's Chinatown*) can be passed on to the next generation is through discussions and literature.

Participants are encouraged to pull out their devices, pour a cup of jasmine tea, and cut a slice of mooncake while enjoying this one-hour virtual romp, celebrating *San Francisco's Chinatown* past, present, and future.

To place a hold on *San Francisco's Chinatown*, please call your local branch.
**The Splendid and the Vile** by Erik Larson

**Thursday, May 20 at 10:30 am on Cisco Webex**

Best-selling author Erik Larson shows how Churchill taught the British people “the art of being fearless.” Larson provides a new lens on London’s darkest year through the day-to-day experience of Churchill and his family. *The Splendid and the Vile* takes readers back to a time of true leadership, when, in the face of unrelenting horror, Churchill’s eloquence, courage, and perseverance bound a country, and a family together.

*Moderated by Jeanmarie Kantor, Library HQ*

**Dear Edward** by Ann Napolitano

**Wednesday, May 26 at 10:30 am on Cisco Webex**

Ann Napolitano explores tragedy and loss in this coming-of-age story, about a boy named Edward who is the sole survivor of a plane crash that killed everyone on board, including his family. The novel, told in two timelines, tells the stories of ill-fated passengers and of Edward, the survivor, as he navigates through his new reality.

*Moderated by Rebecca Gokberk, Library HQ*

**“Rope”** by Katherine Anne Porter

**Thursday, May 27 at 10:30 am on Cisco Webex**

Tension between a husband and wife escalates when a coil of rope and forgotten coffee reveal hidden frustrations.

A PDF of the story will be emailed after registration.

*Moderated by Mary Patterson, Hazlet Branch*

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