Following the years of uncertainty – and a global pandemic that has proven to be one of the most challenging events in history – we forged on, prepared to tackle what lay ahead. As we continue to extract the possible from the impossible, this year taught us, above all, that our voices – no matter how big or small – can change the world and we must continue to work together to build a better community. Indeed, we did and continue to do so!

DCPLA was able to host our annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon in person on March 17, 2022 at the Colma Community Center. It was a huge success! Everyone in attendance was thrilled to be able to see their friends and colleagues in person once again, even though our masks remained an accessory to our attire.

On April 28, 2022, at City Hall of Daly City, DCPLA announced Chloe Chou as the 22-23 Daly City Youth Poet Laureate.

On November 5, 2022, DCPLA hosted our inaugural Art & Lit Fest at Serramonte Center which allowed us to showcase the remarkable local artists of Daly City and beyond. This fundraising event included author talks, musical performances and workshops, as well as cultural performances and a poetry reading.

This year, I was pleased to pass the baton of President to Monica Devincenzi, who has been a DCPLA director for four years and is an active community member in various capacities. She brings with her excellent leadership skills and valuable experience that will surely benefit DCPLA. I will continue to support Monica and DCPLA as Vice President.

Through a difficult few years, DCPLA has worked diligently to ensure Daly City libraries continued to receive support in order to assist our community whether remotely or in person.

I am thankful to have led this organization this past year alongside a tremendous group of directors and board members and look forward to much more success in 2023.

All my best,

Trisha deVer 
2022 DCPLA Board President

The mission of the Daly City Public Library Associates is to raise private funds to supplement public funding of the Daly City Public Library. This mission is accomplished by developing community, civic and business support for fundraising, advocacy, and innovative programs that benefit our diverse community and promote greater awareness of the Library’s valuable resources.

Our support complements, but does not supplant, the City’s responsibility for funding the Daly City Public Library’s operations.
St. Patrick’s Day, March 17, 2022, found the Colma Community Center welcoming DCPLA back for its annual fundraising lunch, after a two year hiatus. Over 120 DCPLA members and lunch sponsors were greeted by bagpiper, Hal Wilkes and the Murphy Irish Dancers – Sheridan family members Brenden, Melissa, Tony and Ryan. They performed several dances to the delight of the audience. The Board of Directors served a corned beef and vegetable lunch buffet style which was sponsored by Bob McLennan and prepared by Dominic's. Molloy's provided the bar for a “taste” in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

The featured speaker at the event was best-selling author Cara Black. She had just released her latest Aimee Leduc mystery, Murder at the Porte de Versailles, which she sold and autographed at the event, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting DCPLA. Cara shared with guests how she grew up going to the library with her father, and how she passed that tradition on to her son. While doing research for her first book, based in Paris during the German occupation, she met DCPLA member Denise Schwarzbach. The Jewish library in San Francisco connected Cara with Denise as someone who could talk personally about that period in time. They've remained fast friends. The “Fund the Need” was a great success, raising much needed funds for three spotlighted programs: a new “Activity Tower” for the John Daly library, book and multimedia display furniture, and the “Lucky Day Collection,” which provides extra copies of popular books. Former DCPLA Board Presidents, Adrienne Tissier and Tom Nuris and current DCPLA Board Member, Monica Devincenzi rallied the crowd to donate to these worthy causes!

Teresa Proano then led everyone in singing “When Irish Eyes are Smiling” and Patrick Sweetland gave the Irish blessing. “May the dreams you hold dearest be those which come true. The kindness you spread keeps returning to you.”

The event committee was chaired by Sara Watson who was joined by members Susan Brissenden-Smith, Brian Dossey, Felicia Leong, Teresa Proano, and Adrienne Tissier. Victoria Magbilang, Executive Director, provided on-going staff support.

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DCPLA’s St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon

After a pandemic hiatus, the beloved annual tradition is welcomed back

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2022-23 Daly City Youth Poet Laureate

Meet Chloe Chou, Poet, Author, and Activist

After serving for nearly a year as the Daly City Youth Poet Laureate, Chloe has grown as a writer and a person. During her term, she was recognized in various Daly City and San Mateo events, along with the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and selected literary publications. As part of her laureateship, Chloe also started Cloudy Magazine, a youth-led literary magazine. The first issue, released in November 2022, received over two hundred submissions internationally, and features thirty works from Daly City youth and youth around the world. It also includes poetry from the previous mayor of Daly City, Rod Daus-Magbual, and features an editorial team of ten teenagers around the world, including three from Daly City. Chloe’s journey in poetry and activism still continues today. Cloudy Magazine currently has an open submission period for its second issue, and Chloe was named Runner-up for the inaugural California Youth Poet Laureate position.
New Event: Art & Lit Fest

At the inaugural Art & Lit Fest on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2022, the DCPLA shined a spotlight on the many remarkable local artists of Daly City and beyond.

The fundraising event to benefit the city's libraries included author talks, musical performances and workshops, as well as cultural performances and a poetry reading.

Festival headliner, Bren Bataclan, author and artist of “Fe: A Traumatized Son’s Graphic Memoir,” spoke about his work and led an interactive drawing workshop. Though it has been many decades since Bataclan lived in Daly City, he said that it will always feel like home, and attributed Daly City as the place where he found his passion for art. With Bataclan leading, the crowd collaborated on two incredible pieces of art that will be auctioned off with proceeds going to support the DCPLA.

Other notable performances included:

- Looking for the Perfect Beat: SF/Daly City-raised MC/Beat Maker, Ahmed Kap Amino (also known as A.K.aye) and amillionbeats and Skratchfight Turntable Community offered a fun hands-on experience that allowed participants to explore the musicality of hip hop.
- Becoming a Writer: Chloe Chou, DCPLA's Daly City Youth Poet Laureate, discussed her self-published science fiction novel and spoke about her current project, Cloudy Magazine, an online zine for youth.
- Musical Performances and Workshops: Dos Bandoleros, a Spanish Rubio duo; Andy Galeon, drummer from Death Angel; and UkuLenny, a ukulele musician who led the crowd in a ukulele lesson!

The festival also included a wide variety of local artists and crafters selling their creations throughout the day, including well-known street artist Mark Bodé. Shoppers were delighted to peruse the various unique, handcrafted, and local products.

“We believe that Daly City has an abundance of talented authors, artists, musicians, and poets, but until now, there haven’t been many opportunities for them to share their art,” said Victoria Magbilang, Executive Director of DCPLA. “It was our goal for the Art & Lit Fest to provide a platform for our local talent, while also supporting Daly City’s public libraries and we feel that we have achieved that.”

The festival would not have taken place without the generosity and enthusiastic participation of the community, businesses and city government. DCPLA is beyond grateful for the generous support of our sponsors, which includes longtime community supporters like Serramonte Center, Cypress Lawn Cemetery Association, Classic Bowling Center, Duggan's Serra Mortuary and many more.

Since 2011, DCPLA has donated more than $340,000 to Daly City libraries to fund books, equipment, furniture, programs and more. “This support provides valuable resources to the community,” said DCPLA President, Trisha deVera.

“We are so proud of this event. It allowed us to promote and celebrate our own community artists and authors,” deVera added. “By connecting with our community through events like this, we are building a stronger foundation for our city.”

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We owe our success to the generous support of our community.

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