

Life Frames[®], Inc.

New York, San Francisco

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<http://www.alivinglibrary.org>

WHERE:

Holly Park, Appleton Street side, off Mission Street, at Holly Park Circle, San Francisco

WHAT:

LAUNCH OF BERNAL HEIGHTS LIVING LIBRARY & THINK PARK NATURE WALK
HELP GREEN BERNAL HEIGHTS AND DEVELOP A NATURE WALK LEADING TO ISLAIS CREEK

- Community Planting of 500 California Native Trees ! Begins November 14, 9:30 AM – 5 PM
- Phase 1 of Nature Walk includes linking multiple parks, schools, open spaces, streets, and homes leading to Islais Creek at southern edge of St. Mary's Park with California Native Trees and Understory, themed Narrative Artworks, Interpretive Signage, other related elements.
- Eco-Art Environmental Transformation, Community Building & Education, Green Skills Job Training. Directed by Life Frames, Inc, in collaboration with: Junipero Serra Elementary School, Junipero Serra Child Development Center, SF Recreation & Park Department, SF Housing Authority, SF Department of Public Works, SF Public Utilities Commission, Mayor's Office of Greening, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, Holly Court Tenants Association, Friends of Holly Park, Friends of Urban Forest, Alemany Farm, Neighbors, & Friends.
- *Bernal Heights Living Library Nature Walk Master Plan* developed by Life Frames, Inc., funded by Mayor's Office of Community Development and San Francisco Foundation. Tree planting funded by California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection.
- Future Phases of Nature Walk: *Frame Islais Creek Watershed* linking more than 9 communities in San Francisco, multiple schools, open spaces, and streets with Native Trees & Understory, Narrative Artworks, Signage, other elements

Great Photo/TV Opportunities !

WHO:

Kids and Neighbors from Bernal Heights Community, Staff from City Agencies, Schools, Community Organizations. All are helping develop new, *Bernal Heights Living Library & Think Park Nature Walk*.

WHEN:

1st Planting: Holly Park

Friday, November 14th, 9:30 am - 5 pm (Best times for Press: 10:00 am-2:00 pm)

Saturday, November 15th, 9 am - 12 pm

2nd Planting: Holly Park

Friday, December 12th, 9 am - 5 pm

Saturday, December 13th, 9 am - 12 pm

1st Planting: St. Mary's Park

Friday, December 19th, 9:30 am - 5 pm

Saturday, December 20th, 9 am - 12 pm

(Future Planting Dates for St. Mary's Park, Holly Court, J. Serra CDC, and others to be announced)

WHY:

We have an extraordinary opportunity to Green Bernal Heights and create an *ECO Zone* by developing

Indoor/Outdoor Community Learning Environments, International Culture-Ecology-Technology Think Parks[®], & A Living Library[®] with Integrated Programs, Curricula, & Products

this ***Bernal Heights Living Library & Think Park Nature Walk*** leading to the Islais Creek. This Plan was created by children and adults from the community led by Life Frames, Inc., beginning in 2002, and, now, we are ready to begin planting. The concept is to link diverse schools, open spaces, and streets all leading to the Islais Creek with California Native Trees and Understory, Themed, Narrative Artworks, Interpretive Signage, and other related elements. Phase 11 of Master Plan supports vision to ***Frame the Islais Creek Watershed*** and continue to develop the ***Nature Walk*** to reconnect at least 9 San Francisco communities in Southeast and Southwest San Francisco: Bernal Heights, Bayview Hunter's Point, Potrero Hill, Mission, Noe Valley, Glen Park, Sunnyside, Excelsior, Portola – by linking multiple streets, schools, and open spaces through plantings, artworks, and other elements – all delineating the Watershed and unique diversity of each neighborhood– past, present, future.

The ***Bernal Heights Living Library Nature Walk*** offers unique opportunities for children and the whole community to enhance the beauty of the neighborhood, help with traffic calming, call attention to the area's rich resources, re-attract wildlife, create green, living, ecological places for learning, and provide a healthy environment of natural beauty that will also give refreshment to the spirit.

BACKGROUND & MEANING OF A LIVING LIBRARY (A.L.L.):

Life Frames, Inc., non-profit sponsor of ***A Living Library & Think Parks***, and Founder & Director, ***Bonnie Ora Sherk***, Environmental Architect, Artist, and Educator, work with communities and schools to create place-based, ecological landscapes that incorporate the local resources of the area, resulting in content-rich, ***Green Centers For Community*** with integrated, content-rich, ***Learning Zones***.

In San Francisco, in addition to the ***Bernal Heights Branch Living Library***, Life Frames sponsors ***Branch Living Library & Think Parks*** in the Excelsior at James Denman Middle School and San Miguel Child Development Center, (also part of the Islais Creek Watershed), and in Chinatown, at Gordon Lau Elementary School and Commodore Stockton Child Development Center. Combined in San Francisco, Life Frames works year-round, with over 900 children and youth per month.

Through hands-on, interdisciplinary, real world experiences in transforming their environment, children and youth learn standards-based subjects: math, science, history, language arts, arts, and technology, plus more ! Adults also participate, and all ages work and learn together. ***Branch Living Library & Think Parks*** in diverse communities of San Francisco and New York City will be linked through ***Green-Powered Digital Gateways*** and other learning programs.

The ***Branch Living Library & Think Park School Programs*** in San Francisco are funded by **San Francisco Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families**.

A **Goal and Vision** is to develop and interconnect ***Branch Living Library & Think Parks*** throughout San Francisco and around the world through ***Green Powered Digital Gateways***. ***When we learn all that we can about our local place, from that we can then learn about the world.***

A Living Library or ***A.L.L.***, for short, is a metaphor. ***Everyone and Everything on Earth and in Space is part of A Living Library: People, Trees, Birds, Air, Water - and All the Things We Create - Parks, Gardens, Schools, Curricula, Artworks, Networks, Communities, Celebrations.*** ***A.L.L.*** shows us that culture and technology are part of nature. ***ALL is Nature.***

A ***Think Park*** is meant to help us think, feel, and be more empathetic.

A ***Life Frame***, frames life so we can see it and experience it more profoundly.