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Speakers

October 12, 2022

[Eleanor Hollander, Manager, Berkeley Office of Economic Development](#)
"Berkeley Civic Center Visioning Project"

October 19, 2022

[Ann Harlow, President, Berkeley Historical Society](#)
"The Berkeley Historical Society and Museum: Current Offerings and Future Vision"

October 26, 2022

[Jeffrey Church, Visitor & Partner Services Manager, Visit Berkeley](#)
"Visit Berkeley: Showcasing Community and Culture for Visitors and Locals Alike"

Club Announcements

By Linda Cogozzo

Next Meeting. Wednesday, October 12, 12:30 PM PT, in person at First Presbyterian and via Zoom: Eleanor Hollander, Manager of the Berkeley Office of Economic Development, which includes the civic arts and business services team, will be speaking about Phase 2 of the "Berkeley Civic Center Visioning Project." [Phase 1 Civic Center Vision Plan](#) was completed in summer 2020, with plans for a renovated park and an Art Hub in the Veteran's Memorial Building and vision-aligned city services in the Maudelle Shirek Building. Eleanor will talk about preliminary plans to seismically retrofit and reactivate these buildings and redesign the park, so that the Civic Center becomes the prime space for civic life, culture, and the arts in the heart of our community, as well as opportunities for community input in the Phase 2 planning process. The speaker is provided by Team #11, the David Brower Center Team; Kathy Huff and Adrian Vancamper, Captains.



Events

- October 20th [Third Thursday Gathering](#)
- October 23rd [Golden Gate Bridge Walk](#)
- October 26th [Civil Discourse Meeting](#)
- November 5th [Alzheimer's Walk Kickoff Meeting](#)

Birthdays

- [Kate Harrison](#) October 13th
- [Donald L. Alter](#) October 15th
- [Lewis Ames](#) October 27th
- [Joanne Dickerson-Harper](#) October 29th
- [Joan Collignon](#) November 3rd
- [Pate D. Thomson](#) November 5th

Member Spotlight: Shivani Grover

By Mary Alice Rathbun



Welcome, new club member Shivani Grover!

Shivani Grover was born in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and raised in Miami, Florida. She has been a resident of Florida, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and now California, where she enjoys living in Berkeley.

Shivani has spent much of her professional life in the field of education, building living wage models for educators and developing educational programming. Her work with local schools as well as the University of California, Berkeley has spanned from early childhood to post-baccalaureate levels. Shivani has also worked in academia as an Indian art historian at Harvard University, where she worked on Mughal painting, the sculpture of Chhattisgarh, and Vedic texts. In addition, Shivani is the co-founder of a technology consulting firm alongside her husband.

Shivani serves on a commission for the Oakland School Board. She is also an active member of the North Hills Community Association, Metropolitan Greater Oakland (MGO) Democrats, and the Alameda County Democrats. With the MGO Democrats, she is advocating for a more robust civics education in the Oakland Unified School District.

Shivani also loves mentoring students and recent graduates, speaking Sanskrit, cooking (on the spicy side), and baking. She is also a lapsed knitter and would love to get back into that habit.

Shivani lives in Berkeley with her husband, Prasad, her eleven-year-old son, Vidur, and two dogs, Copper and Niño. Educated on the east coast, she holds a Bachelor's degree in the History of Art and Architecture, specializing in Indian art from Harvard University and an MS. Ed. in Teaching, Learning and Curriculum from the University of Pennsylvania.

The Power of Our District Governor

By Joan Collignon

"It looked like you were the ring master of a 3 ring circus!" That was the message from a member of our Zoom audience last Wednesday, characterizing our meeting with District 5160 Governor Suzanne Bragdon. We had a full house at First Pres, as we held a joint meeting with Albany Rotary, and the room was hopping.



Suzanne asked to meet first with the Board and Committee Chairs. From the moment she began asking probing questions that put us on the spot, we knew she had done her research. She applauded the club's strong points but made us painfully aware of where we could improve. Modify the team structure? Be creative with meeting times? Ask our members what it is they like and want? Board members are planning to follow up seriously and consider some changes.

Back in the Calvin Room after the Board gathering, we welcomed the Albany Rotary Club members, and Albany President Taner Sen joined me at the lectern to preside jointly. Our newest member, Shivani Grover, was inducted by our Governor, in a ceremony that meshed Suzanne's description of the amazing journey Shivani is beginning because of the Power of Rotary, with our Berkeley club's call and response that ended with our enthusiastic promise to help her. That's always a powerful moment.

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