

Sierra Madre Public  
**LIBRARY**



SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

# One Book One City

FEBRUARY 2024

## About the Author

Rutger Bregman (b. 1988) is a historian and author. He has published five books on history, philosophy, and economics.

His books *Humankind* (2020) and *Utopia for Realists* (2017) were both New York Times Bestsellers and have been translated in more than 40 languages. He lives in Holland.

His work has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian* and the BBC. He has been described by *The Guardian* as the "Dutch wunderkind of new ideas" and by TED Talks as "one of Europe's most prominent young thinkers". His TED Talk, "Poverty Isn't a Lack of Character; It's a Lack of Cash", was chosen by TED curator Chris Anderson as one of the top ten of 2017.

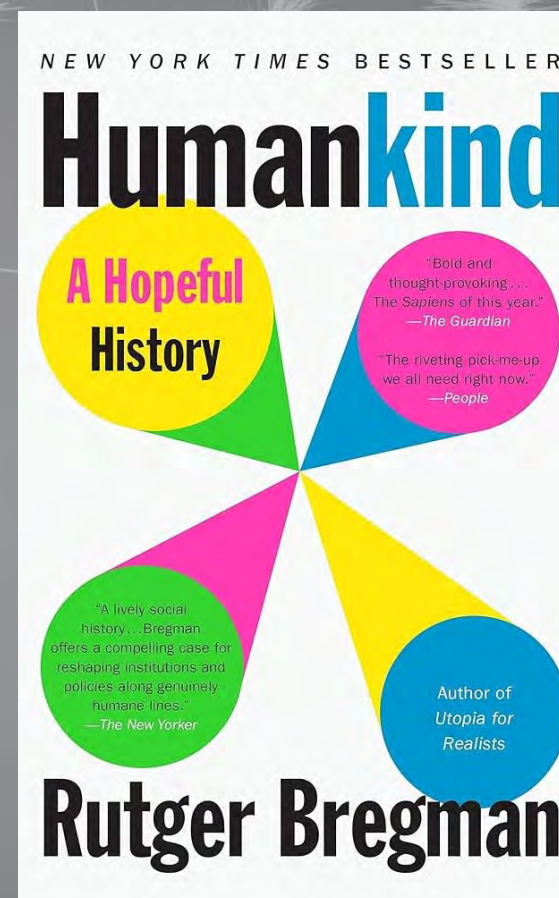
*Humankind: A Hopeful History* takes a multi-disciplinary approach, drawing from the findings of history, economics, psychology, biology, anthropology and archaeology. Bregman's arguments include the assertion that in the state of nature debate, Rousseau, rather than Hobbes, was more correct about humanity's essential goodness.

## Special Thanks

Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library  
Sierra Madre Community Foundation  
One Book One City Committee Members:

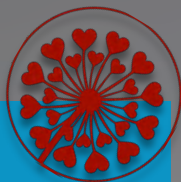
Catherine Adde, Marta Capoccia, Julie Imahara, Rich Procter, Leila Regan, Jane Zamanzadeh, and Leigh Gluck

Sierra Madre Public Library  
350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
626-355-7186 [www.cityofsierramadre.com/library](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/library)



"So what is this radical idea? That most people, deep down,  
are pretty decent."  
— Rutger Bregman

# Calendar of Events



## BENEVOLENT PASSIVE PROGRAMS

### All Month Long

**Kindness Book—Temporary Library**—Check out this book and contribute by writing about the kindest act you've ever received.

**Goodwill Intentions—Temporary Library**—Contribute to our paper daisy chain with your intentions for kindness this year.

**Walk This Way: A Story Adventure—Memorial Park**—Stretch your legs and read a book at Memorial Park.



## WEEKLY DONATION DRIVES

### Different Drive Every Week

DROP OFF DONATIONS AT THE SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Week 1—Towel Drive for Free Animal Doctor**—Donate used or new towels from Thursday, Feb. 1 to Saturday, Feb. 10.

**Week 2—Shoes that Fit Shoe Drive**—Donate new kids athletic shoes from Monday Feb. 12 to Saturday, Feb. 17.

**Week 3—Foothill Unity Clothing Drive**—Donate needed personal and clothing items for Foothill Unity from Tuesday, Feb. 20 to Saturday, Feb. 24.

**Week 4—Foothill Unity Food Drive**—Donate needed food and items for Foothill Unity from Monday, Feb. 26 to Saturday, March 02.

## VALENTINE'S CARD MAKING FOR LOCAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

**Saturday, February 03—1:00-4:00 pm**

**Hawks Hall—25 East Laurel Ave**

Make cards to be donated to the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. Make one or several to brighten up a child's Valentine's Day!

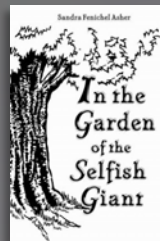


## INTERGENERATIONAL STORYTIME

**Tuesday, February 06—10:00 am**

**The Kensington—245 W Sierra Madre Blvd.**

Sunnyside Preschool is joining the Library for a special storytime at The Kensington.



## "OFF THE PAGE" READING

**Monday, February 12—7:00 pm**

**Sierra Madre Playhouse—87 W Sierra Madre Blvd.**

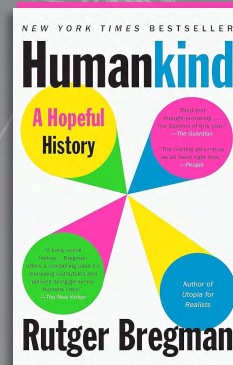
Revel in the one-act play *In the Garden of the Selfish Giant* by Sandra Fenichel Asher at the Sierra Madre Playhouse.

## AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**Wednesday, February 14—12:00-6:00 pm**

**Library Parking Lot—350 W Sierra Madre Blvd.**

Save a life on Valentine's Day! Stop in or pre-register for a time to donate blood. Scan the QR Code to schedule your donation time.



## THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

**Thursday, February 15—11:00 am**

**Online Zoom Meeting**

Read and discuss *Humankind* with your friends and neighbors. *Humankind: A Hopeful History* is Rutger Bregman's argument that humans are fundamentally, mostly decent, and that more recognition of this view would likely be beneficial to everyone, partly as it would reduce excessive cynicism.

## DINNER WITH THE HUMAN LIBRARY

**Saturday, February 24—5:00 pm**

**Hart Park House—222 W Sierra Madre Blvd**

Break bread with human books. Have a courageous conversation with someone of a unique life experience while enjoying a dinner from local restaurant Corfu. Free to attend, registration required. Register on Eventbrite or call the Library at (626) 355-7186.



## SIERRA MADRE 2030

**Wednesday, February 28—6:00 pm**

**City Council Chambers—232 W Sierra Madre Blvd**

One Book One City member Rich Procter hosts an inspirational program based on the ideas of this year's One Book One City selection, *Humankind: A Hopeful History* featuring Rutger Bregman's Ted Talk, "Poverty isn't a lack of character; it's a lack of cash".