

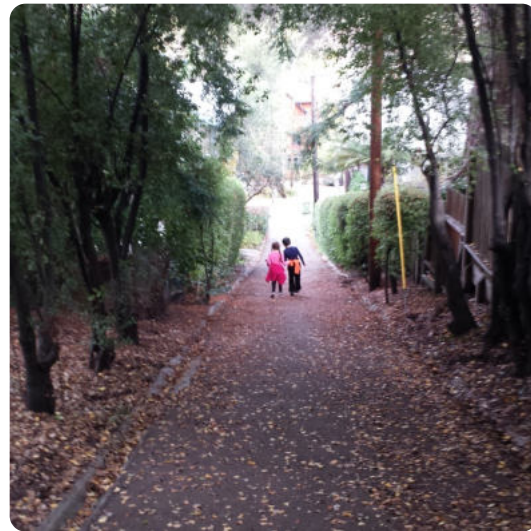
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PATH NEWS



Family outings on paths can turn walks into "mini-adventures" during the pandemic (shown, Eucalyptus Path in Oakland)."



Regular walks during shelter-in-place order have led many to (re)discover Berkeley's paths (shown, The Crossways).

A pandemic perk: Appreciating our paths

By Sandy Friedland

As sheltering in place has prompted nearly everyone to take regular walks, more and more people are discovering Berkeley's many paths and stairways.

Whether you're walking by the art-filled "goose farm" on Oakridge Path East, climbing the

seemingly endless step stairs on Tamalpais Path, or relishing the view from the bench at the top of Atlas Path, you'll find a variety of ways to enjoy these public treasures. Not only can you create challenging aerobic workouts close to home, but you can also plot more leisurely routes that will increase the pleasure of being outside.

And, if you have children to entertain, the paths can be a real boon. Carol Wang, the mother of two small boys, finds that adding the paths to a family walk is like going on a "mini-adventure." [Read more](#)



Getting a handle on curvy Columbia Path



The long way up (or down) Columbia Path

Columbia Path gets a handrail!

It cost a pretty penny — \$16,647 to be exact — but Berkeley's newest path is now outfitted with a handrail! Located between Campus Drive and Queens Road in the Terrace View neighborhood, Lower Columbia Path was perhaps the steepest and most challenging path that [we've built](#), with 182 steps and over 100 feet of elevation. We are grateful as always to our amazing community for supporting path improvement efforts such as this handrail. We couldn't do this work without you! Thank you.

Many other paths in Berkeley (31, according to our most recent [path survey](#)) could use handrail coverage for safer use in recreation as well as emergencies. To support these efforts, please make a donation at <https://www.berkeleypaths.org/your-donations-help>.

TAKE A VIRTUAL WALK

Cragmont Literary Lanes with Bob and Janet

When: Sunday, August 23, 11 a.m. to noon

Where: Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2225437257>



Join Bob Johnson and Janet Byron, co-authors of [Berkeley Walks](#), for a virtual walk covering 3.5 miles in just an hour of armchair travel. In addition to a variety of architecture, from storybook to contemporary, and street trees and gardens, we'll visit the former homes of famous Berkeleyans (including David Brower) and traverse lots of paths and stairways. Two paths were renamed in recent years to recognize poet Ina Coolbrith and longtime Berkeley city councilmember Betty Olds. On a clear day the winding hillside streets — mainly named after writers and poets — offer spectacular views of the East Bay and beyond.

This walk is adapted from Bob's series of new walks, available free for download [here](#).

Above, Shasta Path in the Cragmont neighborhood.

TAKE A SELF-GUIDED WALK

*STEP IT UP: An Adventurer's Guide to Forty Walks on the Paths,
Trails, and Streets of Berkeley and Beyond*
by Jacob Lehmann Duke and Zeke Gerwein

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is honored to publish this exciting new book of 40 walks in Berkeley and beyond. We'll be posting 5 new walks each month until the whole book is available online.

NEW IN AUGUST:

- [Garber and Beyond \(1\)](#)
- [The Meadow Loop \(2\)](#)
- [Every Path in Berkeley, Part Three \(4\)](#)
- [Gwin Canyon to Sibley: North Oakland's Hidden Trails \(4+\)](#)
- [The Claremont Canyon Climb \(5\)](#)

Go to the *Step It Up* [table of contents](#) to download PDFs for all 15 of the currently available walks.



More online resources for self-guided Berkeley walks



Many folks are walking closer to home these days, and our [self-guided walks](#) page is getting lots of traffic. We are happy to provide these resources, and hope you are enjoying your solo and/or socially distanced explorations.

If you've exhausted our walks, we recommend two more Berkeley-focused websites from long-time guides and friends of the paths:

(1) Bob Johnson has made available 15 new itineraries for free on the [Berkeley Walks](#) website, in addition to those in the [book](#) by the same name, co-authored with Janet Byron.

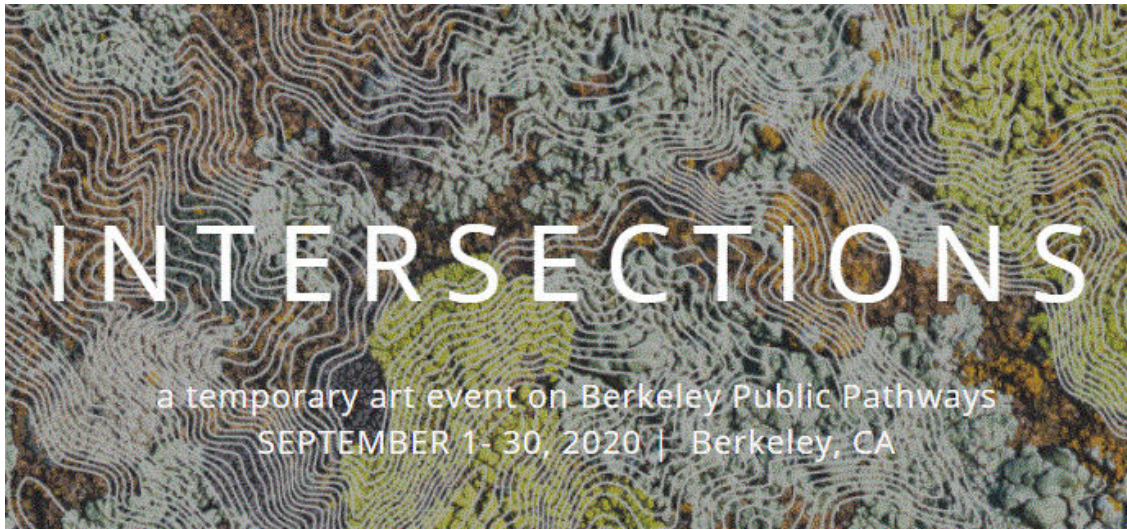
(2) Ron Sipherd, another long-time walk leader for BPWA, let us know that he recently updated his walks with up-to-date descriptions, maps, and photos on his [website](#).

Many thanks to Bob, Ron, and of course, Jacob and Zeke (co-authors of *Step It Up*), for their generosity and continued support of Berkeley's walking community.

Have fun exploring, everyone!

Above, a stone house at 2595 Piedmont, on Ron Sipherd's [Willard neighborhood walk](#).

ART ON THE PATHS



Coming in September: Art on the Paths

By Hadley Dynak, Peak86

The Path Wanderers are partnering with local artists on several paths surrounding Live Oak Park during the month of September. The project, called [Intersections](#), includes six temporary art installations that consider the many points of connection that exist in our community, with the paths as a canvas. Art helps us think about things in different ways, bridge differences, and lift up new perspectives. We hope [Intersections](#) provides an opportunity for contemplation and connection during this time of isolation and separateness.

We're planning several small, distanced guided walks throughout the monthlong event to share details about the artwork and the artists' inspiration. Details will be posted on our website closer to the dates.

The event had originally been scheduled for May; we are excited to reschedule and grateful to the artists for their flexibility. We've received a small Berkeley Civic Arts grant and have a [GoFundMe](#) campaign to raise additional funds for production. Donations of any size are appreciated; many thanks to those who contributed earlier this year before we had to put a temporary pause on this effort.

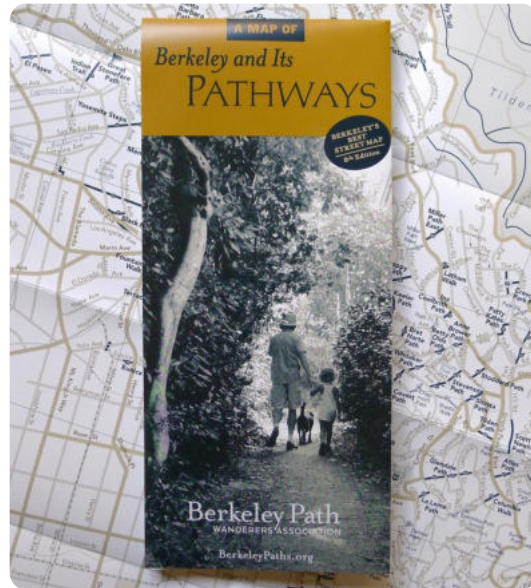
BUY OUR MAP

Simply the Best Map of Berkeley

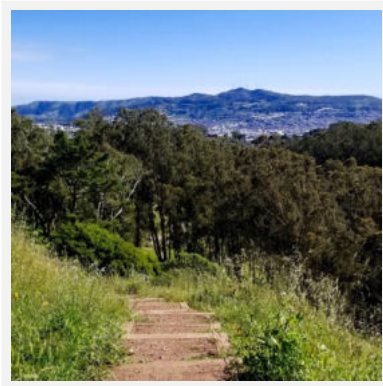
With proper social distancing and mask-wearing, walking is one of the best ways to ease the anxiety and "cooped-up-ness" of sheltering in place. Not surprisingly, our map has been flying off the shelves during the coronavirus pandemic.

If you want to get out of the house and explore Berkeley on foot, *Berkeley and Its Pathways* is hands-down simply the best map of Berkeley. This sturdy, detailed and beautiful map features the entire city — including neighborhoods without a lot of paths — plus all 136 of the picturesque public stairways, ramps, and foot paths that make walking in our city so engaging.

[Buy Our Map](#)



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association (BPWA) is a community organization of people who treasure the public pathways that crisscross our city. [Learn More](#)

The BPWA board meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30 to 9 p.m., virtually until further notice. Guests are welcome! Please contact info@berkeleypaths.com for more information.

Your generosity enables us to build more paths and to hold fun events on the paths. [Donate Now](#)



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