



Strengthening LA County Library with YOUR generous support.

January 2020



Happy New Year!

You - Library users, donors, and champions - helped make 2019 a great year for LA County Library and the [Library Foundation](#).

Thank you!

You've rung in 2020 and the Lunar New Year beckons later this month.

Are you ready?

Whether you're up for celebrating or working to make your New Year's resolution real, your Library has you covered.

Read on.

This month's virtual field trip? A trek back in time...to 1913 and the pioneers of LA County Library system.

Let's hear it for Willowbrook Library, the first branch library! La Canada Flintridge Library and San Dimas Library claim close seconds.

Is exploration on your agenda for 2020? Visit one, or all three, in person!

However you choose to use your Library, thank you for your support!

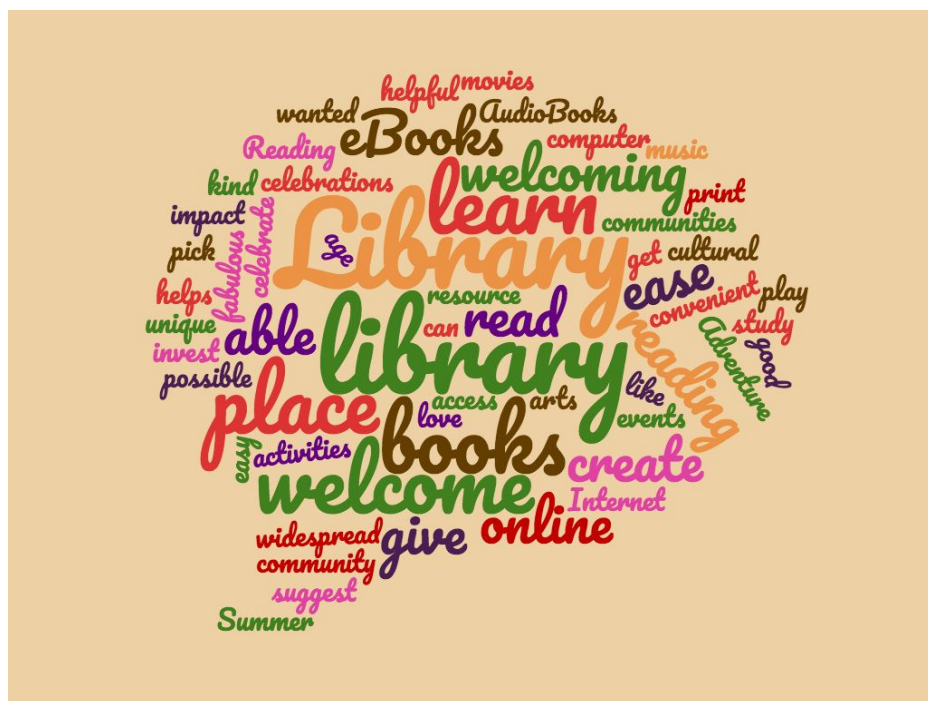
Wishing you joy throughout the year,

Andrea

ANDREA CARROLL
Executive Director

I'd love to hear from you: acarroll@lacolibraryfoundation.org

P.S. Like this e-news? Forward it to your fellow readers. And let them know they can [subscribe at LA County Library Foundation](#).



My Library Story: Nancy Tells You "Why"

You invited me to tell why I donate to the Foundation.

- The library is a place where all are welcome and the employees are very helpful and kind.
- When I started my watercolor hobby, the County Library had many books on the subject to help me out.
- When my husband died, the library was a place I could go for my reading, movies, music, and computer activities and not feel so lonesome.
- I can read books from authors whom I hear on TED talks.
- Children needing a place to go after school come to the library.
- I get help downloading eBooks.
- I can bring my treasured, but no longer necessary, used books to my Friends of the Library bookstore.
- The library helps gather the monthly books for my book club.
- 99% of the time the library usually has books by authors referred to in my other readings or radio interviews.
- Finally, I was able to get my passport through the library.

Thank you, you are very much appreciated.

Nancy K-C

Why do you love your Library?

Tell us, in 150 words or less.

**You've Got Places to Go: Pioneers of
LA County Library**

This month we're heading to three Library pioneers: **Willowbrook**

Library, in 1913, the first branch library in the LA County Library system, and close on its heels, **La Canada Flintridge Library** and **San Dimas Library**.

They began the LA County Library you know today -- 85 community libraries, a library in Central Juvenile Hall, four cultural resource centers, and a mobile fleet of Reading Machines, MāKMō Maker Mobiles, and book mobiles...not to mention the digital library.

Your Library has come a long way over the past 100+ years...**thank you for helping keep it strong.**



LA County

Library

On December 24, 1912, Mrs. Belle Jenkins (pictured above) and fellow residents of Willowbrook Community petitioned the newly founded (September 5, 1912) Los Angeles County Free Library, as LA County Library was then named, to start a branch library.

Success! On April 23, 1913, Willowbrook Library became LA County Library's first branch library.

Mrs. Jenkins served as Librarian, hosting the library and its initial shipment of 50 books in her home.



LA County

Library

Fast forward to 2020. Willowbrook Library, like all County Library locations, is unique, reflecting its community and their needs.

The 8,000 square foot library reopened in 2018 at its current location, and **is the first library in LA County to be part of a mixed-use building** with more than 100 affordable senior housing units on the floors above it.

Five site-specific art installations commissioned by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and Civic Art complement the environmentally-sustainable and welcoming space.

The Library is busy, with areas and activities for children, teens, and adults. This month, attend a [demo of the new LA County voting machine](#), find out if [vocational tech](#) might be a career path for you, or enjoy [family storytime/hora de cuentos para la familia](#).

Curious? Visit [Willowbrook Library](#)

11737 Wilmington Ave | Los Angeles CA 90059 | 323.564.5698



Tim

Berger La Canada Valley Sun

La Canada Flintridge Library's nearly 17,000 square foot space feels larger after an interior renovation last year.

That's a far cry from the library's first home in May 1913...tucked in the back of a general store. The library later resided in La Canada Elementary School, a storefront on Foothill Boulevard, and a shop building at the elementary school before moving to its current location in 1971.

Today's library offers children's books in **English, Chinese, Spanish, and Armenian.** Books in **Korean** are available for children and adults.

This month, the library is ringing in the Lunar New Year with a [Chinese New Year celebration](#) for the Year of the Rat. Join chef Vivien Phung and [learn to make nian gao](#), a sweet rice cake.

Interested? Head to [La Canada Flintridge Library](#)

4545 N Oakwood Ave | La Canada CA 91011 | 818.790.3330

Two wooden signs are shown, one above the other. The top sign is a light-colored wood with a dark outline and contains the text "From San Dimas Nurseries". The bottom sign is a darker wood with a dark outline and contains the text "Washington Naval". Both signs have a small knot or hole on the left side.

From San Dimas Nurseries

Washington Naval

US

Department of Agriculture, National Agriculture Library

Citrus nurseries and houses defined the community and landscape of San Dimas in 1913 when San Dimas Library joined LA County Library. The library was located in the back of Fairbank's Drugstore.

Agriculture has long since given way to housing and other developments. Today, a **different kind of nursery reigns at San Dimas Library**. Smarty Pants Storytime and Family Place activities are popular with young Library customers and their adults.

Book clubs are popular, too -- [Third Tuesday Book Club](#) for Adults and [Girl Empowerment Book Club](#): 19th Amendment Anniversary. Plus, there's **Adult 101 for teens** this month: Getting Sew-cial at the Library.

Ready to Explore? Visit [San Dimas Library](#)

145 N Walnut Ave | San Dimas CA 91773 | 909.599.6738

Where do you want to go next?

[Let us know!](#)



La Canada Chinese Club

Library Events: Lunar New Year, New Year's Resolutions, MLK Day & More.

Events in January run the gamut....

In keeping with the Lunar New Year (January 25) and a lucky number in many Asian cultures, here's some of what's happening at 8 County libraries:

- 1. Norwalk Library** welcomes the Year of the Rat (the first sign of the zodiac and associated with new beginnings and opportunities) with an [Art Activity](#) for children, 5-12 years. Plus, get a red envelope while they last!
- 2.** Kids, get creative and have fun at **Graham Library** with [Learn N Make: MLK Diversity Art](#) in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King.
- 3. Westlake Village Library** hosts ocean explorers Wayne and Karen Brown. They'll share real-life information with kids about [Frozen's Arctic Animals](#).
- 4.** Feeling stressed? The **Asia Pacific Resource Center** at **Rosemead Library** is hosting a [morning meditation with sound healing session](#) for adults with Japanese sound bowl specialist Yuki Uwasawa Fultineer. *Pre-registration is required.*
- 5. City Terrace Library** invites 15-24 year old individuals and families recovering from economic hardship to attend a presentation by B.A.R.E. Truth Inc, [Transitional Housing: Learn About Community](#)

[Resources & Get Support](#). An LA County Library My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Peer Advocate will be support for the session. B.A.R.E. Truth Inc. is providing refreshments and gift card giveaways.

6. Adult 101 for teens: [Make your own stress ball](#) at **Agoura Hills Library** as you learn ways to reduce and manage stress.

7. Youngsters (4-8 years old) and their parent or caregiver, kick off the new year with [Lunar New Year Storytime](#) at **Rowland Heights Library**.

8. **La Crescenta Library** invites you to join in the festivities -- balloon storytelling, an anniversary cake, jazz, art making, an historical lecture, and a tour of the library's art and architecture -- as the library [celebrates 10 years of service to the community](#) in its newest building.

Looking for more to do? [Click here.](#)

For Fun: [Quotable Quips & Fabulous Facts](#)

- **Three clues about this mystery library:**

It's a green building (Gold LEED certified) with site-specific artworks by local artists;

It sits in the Santa Monica Mountains; and

It's LA County Library's newest library location.

If you guessed **Topanga Library**, you're right!

- William Shakespeare, George Washington, Rosa Parks, Jimmy Carter, Grace Bumbry, Rosemary Casals, Diego Maradona, and Katy Perry.

What's the connection? All were born in the Year of the Rat.

- A popular (and scientifically sound) resolution for the New Year: **read.**

[Have a Library fact or quote to share?](#)