



Strengthening LA County Library with your support

January, 2022

Dear Library Champion,

Here's to a grand new year!

To 2022, to the Lunar New Year, to the Library's 110th anniversary year, and the Library Foundation's 40th year.

To your happiness this year!

There's a lot to celebrate, even in these staggeringly tough times.

Thank you for your incredible support.

Your generosity - with gifts for your Library, shout outs to staff, using Library resources in person and virtually, and telling family, friends, and coworkers about LA County Library Foundation - adds up.

You make an impact.

You're helping inspire readers of all ages, igniting interest in science and the arts, encouraging lifelong learning, building connections, promoting cultural exploration and understanding, and more.

When Roy M became a monthly donor, I asked him why.

"With the onset of COVID, I've been impressed by all the vital services the Library has stepped up to deliver - streaming movies and books, offering great virtual content, facilitating

borrowing of books, serving as Wi-Fi hotspots, and offering classes for all ages.

And I very much admire the robust commitment to inclusion and diversity that is evident in the classes and programming.

So, it's my pleasure, in my small way, to help ensure that all these things continue in the coming year."

Roy, who recalls many trips to the library with his two, now college-aged, sons ("for books to read at home, doing homework, audiobooks for road trips"), shares a story about his childhood library and librarian Miss Curry.

Read on...I hope you'll enjoy Roy's *My Library Story*. Please share yours, too.

And share stories of how you're celebrating, whether it's for the [Lunar New Year](#), the Year of the Tiger (starts tomorrow), or as part of February's month-long celebration of [African American and Black History](#).

This month's *Virtual Field Trip* stays close to home, a snapshot of LA County Library as it celebrates the 110th year since its founding in 1912. Enjoy!

And stay tuned...the Foundation will soon start celebrating its 40th anniversary year, and we're excited to do that with you.

In celebration,

ANDREA

Andrea Carroll
Executive Director

P.S. [Celebrate your Library with a gift today](#). Thank you!

Librarians make a difference.



Image: LA County Library Digital Collections.

Celia Gleason, LA County Library's first librarian (1912-1924), established a total of 165 branch libraries in the Library's first five years. Her hiring agreement stated that Willowbrook, at the petition of its residents, would be the first location of a library.

My Library Story: Roy M on Miss Curry, children's librarian

" My Library story doesn't have anything to do with the County libraries here, but I grew up in a small town in southern Washington – population 3,000 – and everyone worked in the local paper mill.

Despite the small size of the town, we had a great public library, with the second floor dedicated exclusively to children's books.

The children's librarian was Miss Curry, who'd been a missionary in India for many years before becoming a librarian – a fact that always makes me smile when I think of it – and as I came up the stairs, she'd greet me by name and offer suggestions for new books to explore.

Every summer we'd have the summer reading program, with little construction paper rocket ships with our names on them that you got to move up one level every time you completed a book.

Miss Curry moved me along the path to becoming a lifetime reader, and I made it a priority to give my sons that same experience.

Good memories."

**What's your Library Story?
We'd love to hear. Email us!**

Check out *My Library Story* here.

Virtual Field Trip: LA County Library

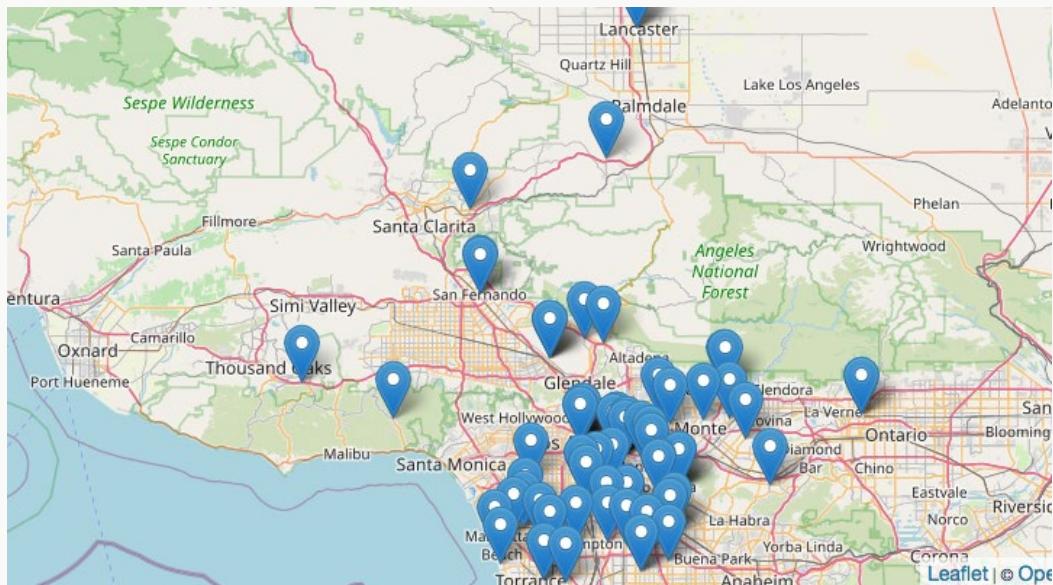


Image: LA County Library Digital Collection/OpenStreetMap.

LA County has 86 library locations, including Avalon Library on Catalina Island (not pictured).

LA County Library:

- Founded in 1912, your Library is 110 years strong. Providing access to free Library resources and opportunities for socioeconomic success for any child, teen, or adult in the county
- With 86 libraries, your Library is the second largest system in the nation (based on number of libraries) after New York Public Library
- Serving Los Angeles County, across more than 3,000 square miles - from Catalina Island to the valleys to the high desert, to urban and rural, rich and under resourced - with physical locations and:
 - 4 bookmobiles (2 electric & 2 propane)

- 10 MākMō maker mobiles
- 3 mobile Reading Machines
- 2 library outreach vans
- 4 acclaimed *Resource Centers*, beloved by scholars and community members for original historical source materials and contemporary programming - online and in person:
 - [American Indian Resource Center](#) (Huntington Park Library)
 - [Asian Pacific Resource Center](#) (Rosemead Library)
 - [Black Resource Center](#) (A C Bilbrew Library)
 - [Chicano Resource Center](#) (East Los Angeles Library)
- 7+ million volume book collection, magazines, newspapers, government publications, and an extensive digital library, including online databases.

Plus, fine free Library cards, laptop & hotspot loans, parking lot Wi-Fi, and free printing address the digital divide.

Your Library strengthens community, develops literacy, nourishes knowledge, cultivates creativity, innovates with technology, and builds cultural understanding and inclusion to create a stronger, more positive today, and tomorrow.

Your donations help keep your Library strong - thank you!

Celebrate your Library!



DONATE



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