



Strengthening LA County Library with your support

April, 2021

Dear Library Champion,

Your Library is back!

Or, at least, it's on its way. Last week, 30 locations reopened, with more to come.

Maybe, like me, you're rejoicing, or just letting out a breath held in too long...regardless of whether your library has reopened.

One thing is clear. You love your Library!

Thank you for delivering that message.

You gave generously on Library Giving Day. And you continue to give, knowing that your Library is here for you every day throughout the year.

It's wonderful to have the Library - *as a place* - back, even if you prefer to hold off for a while and continue with Sidewalk Service.

How marvelous to finally be able to "see" a time when all 86 libraries will be back in action and at full capacity!

For now, reopening is slow and sure. Designed to meet community needs while keeping everyone safe.

So, fewer people allowed at one time in each library; computer use limited to one hour a day per person; and for the sake of giving everyone a chance to enter, you're asked not to browse too languidly in the one-direction stacks, or settle in for a long stay in your favorite spot.

Yes, everyone loves their library.

And your Library continues to deliver - with safe in-person services and programs, a magnificent digital library you can enjoy whether or not your library is physically open yet, and fabulous [virtual programming](#) (don't miss tomorrow's *Discover LA's Wild Side with the Natural History Museum* - sponsored by Edison International and your Library Foundation).

You also love the people who make your Library run, and who've been there, as Shelley K. writes in *My Library Story*, to see you through and past the pandemic.

Also in this enews, Library Foundation volunteer Paul Loesch reminds you about (or maybe introduces you to) some treasures on the Library's home page: three sources of recommendations for your next read.

And again, with thanks to you, this month's fabulous facts zero in on the Library's annual celebration of reading, learning, and curiosity - [Spring & Summer Discovery Program](#).

This program is for YOU - whether you're a child or a centenarian, or somewhere in between.

So, read on, and if you haven't already, [sign up today!](#) Fun, learning, and a chance to win prizes, await you.

The Library Foundation is delighted to sponsor this month's challenge...and to offer you, or a company you know, the opportunity to sponsor a *Discovery Challenge* month this spring or summer.

Curious about sponsorship? Just [let me know](#) and I'll give you details.

Thank you for supporting your Library!

ANDREA

Andrea Carroll
Executive Director

P.S. [Your donation today](#) will help keep your Library strong and nimble, meeting your needs as it reopens and moves ahead. Thank you!

Your Library Story: Immense gratitude for Library staff



Image: LA County Library

Library staff are essential! Library Page Corri Somm (above) continues to work as an LA County Disaster Service Worker (DSW). During COVID, with libraries physically closed to the public, more than one-third of Library staff served in DSW positions - from distributing food, to helping unhoused people, to, like Corri, working at mass vaccination sites.

Other staff ensured that your Library continued 24/7 with virtual programming and a robust digital library. Library staff continues to answer your questions via phone, text, and chat, ensure your holds and your requests for a Laptop & Hotspot Kit are filled and delivered via Sidewalk Service, and now, at 30 libraries that are open, with in-person services. Enjoy more stories from your essential Library staff at the [Library's YouTube channel](#).

From Shelley K.:

I would like to express my gratitude and admiration to all of the Library staff.

Your hard work and diligence during these challenging times made it possible for the library patrons to have access to books, audio books and DVDs.

For many of us, these are essential to our daily enrichment of life.

The public couldn't do without the stupendous Library staff.

A big thanks to all of you!

What's your Library Story?

[Email us!](#)

[Read more Library stories here.](#)

Digital Toolbox: **finding your next great read**



Library Foundation volunteer Paul Loesch writes:

LA County Library's home page offers several ways to help you decide what to read next.

Let's look at only a small portion of them:

First, unearth a Library gem: *personalized recommendations*.

These recommendations for books, audio books, picture books, and comics/graphic novels, are made for you – *and you alone* – by your local librarian who's choosing from the entire Library collection, from all 85 community libraries.

Selections – for adults, teens, and children – are based upon your interests, reading history, likes, dislikes, and favorite genres.

This marvelous resource works even if the doors to your local library aren't yet open; you can pick up your reads through Sidewalk Service.

How to get to this treasure?

On the Library's home page, scroll down to the picture labeled [*More Books to Explore: Suggestions Just for You*](#).

Click on it to reveal a simple form with questions about your interests and reading habits: favorite books or ones you've enjoyed, ones you haven't liked, and a few other criteria.

Fill out and submit the form. Within seven days or so, your librarian will send you a personal email with a few recommendations created uniquely for you.

These recommendations are based upon a motto basic to all libraries: *Anyone can find a book at the library. A librarian will help you find the right book.*

Your Library has news for you: *NextReads Newsletters*

The next great place to find a recommendation for a future read is from one of 23 curated newsletters: *LA County Library NextReads*.

Each newsletter focuses on a single genre, including: Mystery; Romance; Thrillers; Home, Garden & DIY; Teens; Children's Picture Books; and even Tween Reads.

Other categories, to name a few, include: *New York Times Bestsellers* (lists for both fiction and nonfiction); Arm Chair Travel; Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise; and Audiobooks.

To sign up for one or more of these newsletters, go to the menu bar near the top of the Home Page. Locate the *Books, Movies & Music* menu; at the bottom of that sub-menu, click on [NextReads Newsletters](#) to find the newsletter(s) right for you.

Extra, extra, read all about it! *For teens, by teens.*

The Library's home page will also take you to some extra-special book reviews – by teen readers in grades 7-12.

These reviews highlight both the capabilities and interests of teenage readers.

Teens and tweens read a library book, write about it, and submit their brief essay for a librarian's review before it's posted to the Library website.

To locate these wonderful reviews, go to *Teens & Kids* on the [main menu bar](#). Select *Teens* from the sub-menu, and then click on *Find a Good Book* where you'll see reviews and also a place to submit your own.

Not only will teens find these reviews useful, but adults who enjoy Young Adult books will appreciate them, as well. They're also a great guide if you need to find a book for a young person in your life.

LA County teens are awesome!

So is your Library, and so are you! The many digital resources cited here are offered, as always, free of charge, through your Library.

You help make this possible with your support – as a user and vocal champion of libraries, and as a donor to the Library Foundation.

Your generous gifts help bridge the gap between what Library programs and services cost and what public funds cover. Thank you!

Stay tuned. Each month, your LA County Library Foundation will highlight some of the many resources your Library provides. Take pride in your role in keeping your Library and your community strong.

In the meantime, [send us an email](#) about your favorite digital resource.

Fabulous Facts: Spring & Summer Discovery Program is here for you!



Image: cottonbro/pexels

Love to read? Ready to Explore? Your Library has you covered...sign up today for [Spring & Summer Discovery Program!](#)

- *Spring & Summer Discovery Program* is for **all ages**: adults, teens, kids, and even toddlers and babies - the entire family can participate
- Each month, now through August, complete a *Discovery* challenge
- Read at least one book a month and complete three activities - and you're entered into a monthly prize drawing
- Several lucky winners will receive Grand Prizes in August
- Read and write reviews, check out booklists, and get personalized recommendations for your next read
- Plus, enjoy fun virtual programs

Calling all sponsors: this is your chance to sponsor a *Spring & Summer Discovery Program* Challenge month.

Your sponsorship will be prominently displayed, you'll enjoy association with the well-loved Library, and you'll support a program that builds literacy, motivation, and connection with the Library.

For details, email [Andrea Carroll](#).

Do you have a fun and fabulous fact to share? [Send it our way](#) and we'll include it in a future enews.

Thank you!

[Your donation will help create a vibrant future.](#)

Thank you for supporting your Library as it reopens. You're supporting literacy, helping job seekers, promoting cultural understanding, and more!

DONATE



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