



Strengthening LA County Library with your support

June, 2021

Dear Library Champion,

Summer is here!

The days are longer and the times a bit brighter. I hope you're doing well.

We're in a time of adjusting, healing, recovering. As ever, your Library is here for you.

With resources that you help make possible.

Like [Spring & Summer Discovery Program](#) - reading and activities - and [Nature Exploration](#) - your chance to do some outdoor adventuring!

June is Pride month. There are lots of ways for you to celebrate the resilient and diverse LGBTQ+ community in LA County and beyond.

Head to the Library's [Pride Page](#). You'll find recommended reads, activity ideas, and databases for exploring LGBTQ+ history.

Plus, in this issue, Library Foundation volunteer Paul Loesch unearths digital jewels for you - ebooks and audiobooks, movies, and music - in three online Library resources: Kanopy, Hoopla, and Freegal.

There's plenty to do this month, and all summer-long.

Schools out. Your libraries are open. Are you up for a field trip?

This month we're heading (virtually) to an architectural gem - West Hollywood Library. It's also home to a treasure trove of LGBT literature and history.

Looking for something else? A different place in the County?

You've got 81 community libraries (four others are closed for renovation) across more than 3,000 square miles to choose from!

Each library and community is unique - yours to explore.

I headed to [Baldwin Park Library](#) over the weekend. I'd never been, and I was curious.

The city, founded as a farming community and known as the hub of the San Gabriel Valley, also boasts the original In-N-Out and, I discovered, In-N-Out University.

Welcoming staff at the library, a spacious children's area, a space for teens, and for me, a feast of new mysteries to choose from.

Browsing the shelves, I came across a book I couldn't resist: Stacy Perman's *New York Times* bestseller origin story of In-N-Out, burger stand turned cult phenomenon. Yes, it's a fascinating, and somewhat tragic, read - about culture, business, and family.

So, what library will you visit? What are you reading? We'd love to know!

Share your [Library Story](#). Send us a picture from *your* Library adventure ([email us](#)).

Wishing you a great start to your summer,

ANDREA

Andrea Carroll
Executive Director

P.S. [Your gift today](#) - a monthly or one-time donation - will make a difference.

**Spring & Summer Discovery
Program: Your ticket for adventure**



Image: preciouz29/IG

"What's better than reading? Being rewarded for it!

Thank you @lacountylibrary & @lacountylibraryfoundation for my awesome new mug & my Starbucks gift card!"

- preciouz29 on Instagram, May Challenge winner

You're not too late to join the fun...and maybe even win a prize.

Sign up today for [Spring & Summer Discovery Program!](#)

It's for ALL ages: babies, kids, teens, and adults. From now through August 8th.

Your generous donation fuels this program. Thank you!

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Library Treasure: Great reads, films & music for Pride



Image: Y. Koppens/pexels

Library Foundation volunteer Paul Loesch shares digital resources:

The LGBTQ+ community has flourished since the Stonewall Uprising of 1969, fueled by the diversity and determination of the community, and glittering with successes like marriage equality and workplace protections.

Yet, despite this progress, LGBTQ+ people continue to be marginalized, ridiculed, shunned, physically harmed, and even killed. There's work to be done.

Pride Month, with LA County Library and your Library Foundation, is a time to celebrate and support the community, to learn more and understand, to be part of a unified force for acceptance.

Your Library has a lot to offer – with books, movies, music, and activities – to start, or continue, that work.

This month, we'll look at some of the Library's digital resources, available through Kanopy, Hoopla, and Freegal.

They include fiction and non-fiction materials – for individuals and families, to entertain and inform tweens and teens, historical and sociological investigations, and “coming of age” and other Young Adult (YA) titles that tackle the often bewildering and complex issues of gender identity and sexuality.

Kanopy is celebrating Pride with 366 streaming audio and video resources. They cover a spectrum of topics, from Modern Love, to Fight for Equality, to LGBTQ History, to Communities and Identities, and more.

To understand what's often seen as the catalyst of the Pride movement, check out the documentary *Stonewall Uprising*, or search by “stonewall” and select from among more than a dozen films.

There's also the Library's curated list of [20 “must-watch”](#) films. You've got lots of other titles to choose from, too. They're all free to you with your Library card (no need to use a pay-per-view service) - Academy Awards winner *Moonlight*; *Maurice*; *God's Own Country*; *Just Friends*; *Tangerine*; and *Tell It To the Bees*.

On **Hoopla**, another streaming service that offers audiobooks, music, videos, and eBooks, young adults will find works by authors Bill Konigsberg and Becky Albertalli.

Though all four of Konigsberg's YA novels are available on Hoopla, *The Bridge* stands out, and will appeal to many readers.

This story, told with insight and compassion, is about two teens. One is gay, and both are struggling with depression and thoughts of suicide. It's an excellent book about teen suicide, and one that parents will also appreciate.

Becky Albertalli wrote the teen coming-out book *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* that later became the film *Love, Simon* and the Hulu series *Love, Victor* (now streaming its second season.)

Teens are sure to enjoy Albertalli and Adam Silvera's eBook about a New York City romance between two boys, *What if it's Us*. They'll also

enjoy Benjamin Alire Saenz's audio book *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*.

The ABC's of LGBT+, an audiobook about everything gender and identity, is a guide for teens and young adults, and for family members and others eager to learn and understand.

eBooks like *LGBT Families* and the documentary *Our House*, explore evolving definitions of family from multiple perspectives.

Pride Month is a celebration, and every celebration needs lots of music! **Freegal** offers selections that can be checked out for 7 days, and you can even download 5 songs for later listening.

Its collection includes many playlists of uplifting music. You might want to sample *Gay Pride Party Music* and *LGBT Balladesque*. Enjoy!

LA County Library is committed to literacy of all sorts and upon any issue. Pride is a great example.

Thank you for supporting these efforts to build opportunity and understanding through LA County Library Foundation's fundraising and outreach activities.

**You've got places to go: West
Hollywood Library**



Image: LA County Library

West Hollywood Library (a LEED Gold certified building dedicated in 2011, nearly 100 years after its founding in 1913) is part of a civic complex and park.

If you're looking for materials that reflect the LGBTQ+ community's rich local and global history, culture, and experiences, you've come to the right place.

West Hollywood Library hosts a comprehensive collection of LGBT fiction and non-fiction literature and history, in a variety of formats: books, journals, periodicals, VHS, and DVD.

You have a choice of popular and academic works and new Lambda Literary Award winners and nominees.

You have lots of online choices, and as with any LA County Library, you can put an item on hold and have it delivered to your library of choice.

And if you're craving an architecturally and artistically rich space...

West Hollywood Library has changing art exhibits from the city's Arts Council, a Shepard Fairey mural (Peace, Freedom, and Creativity), and a fantastic Children's Theater - a small scale version of Michelangelo's Laurentian Library.

This is the place for you.

Have fun exploring!

Where do you want to go next?

Let us know!

You make a difference.

Thank you!



DONATE

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