



LA COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

December 2023

Hi Library Champion,

A huge thank you to you as we say farewell to 2023 and get ready to ring in the New Year!

A friend told me about going to the post office earlier this week – mountains of packages...all returns. Imperfect fits, whether in size or appreciation.

I couldn't help thinking with a smile of you and your fellow Library Champions. A gift for your Library is always a perfect fit. Thank you!

Monthly donor Florence A. is our storyteller this month. When I asked her why she gives, I got an unexpected and delightful answer – she and her sorority sisters are champions of literacy. A gift for the Library is a perfect fit. Read on for her story.

That's what this month's enews is about - a quick look at some of what you make possible with your generosity and love for your Library. A peek at some of what's ahead with your Library in 2024...an abbreviated guide to that gift that's the perfect fit.

Thank you for brightening this year and wishing you a joyous year ahead!

With gratitude for you,

Andrea

Andrea Carroll
Executive Director
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P.S. [You make an impact with your gift.](#) Thank you!



Image: Wokandapix/Pixabay

Literacy - whether its learning the ABCs, getting a handle on basic finances, or exploring computer programs and the internet – is at the heart of your Library.

This month's storyteller, Florence A, says literacy is also a driving force for her sorority chapter. And it was the reason she started making monthly donations to support LA County Library.

Every gift, of any amount, is appreciated and VITAL. As we told Florence, monthly gifts from Library Champions add up. They mean a reliable source of funding, and unrestricted gifts that enable your Library Foundation to move quickly and nimbly to meet Library needs.

My Library Story: An added bonus with a monthly gift - sorority sisters for literacy

"A number of years ago, I rediscovered the library and even though I enjoy using my Kindle, my regular routine is to have both a digital and "real" book going at the same time.

Then I discovered the checking out of DVDs which allows me to catch-up with some of those older movies I always wanted to see.

I'm sorry my monthly donation is so small but I trust it is being put to good use. The bonus and reason I even started to donate was the credit my sorority chapter gets for providing funding to a literacy cause.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season."

- Florence A.

What's your Library Story?

[We want to know.](#)

[Read more Library stories here.](#)

Your Library, the perfect fit: *Your guide to gifts that you make possible*



A gift that's the perfect fit? You're in the right place with a gift for your Library.

Think about it...your Library has something for everyone.

For the parent, job seeker, child, tween, teen, older adult, lifelong learner, social activist, reader, music lover, movie buff, educator, crafter, urban and nature explorer, budding scientist, artist...and the list goes on.

From 86 libraries across more than 3,000 square miles, to a digital library you can visit 24/7, you've got a wonderland of ideas, information, and resources to explore.

We thought it would be fun to share a mini gift guide highlighting just a bit of what you help make possible when you give for your Library.

Thank you and enjoy!



Images: L-R – Carson Library reopening-Monica Almeida/LA County Library, Banned author Sonya Sones/LA County Library, Sorenson Library Fest-Sтивен Georges/LA County Library

Reading matters. Strong readers get higher paying jobs. They navigate more easily through life. If a child isn't reading at grade level by third grade, they probably won't graduate from high school. And from there, they'll likely struggle economically. Too many will end up in the criminal justice system.

Literacy programming at the Library starts early – with babies, toddlers, and their adults (think Smarty Pants Storytime) – and they focus on hooking school age children on reading.

They don't stop there. Programs, including the wildly popular *Summer Discovery*, target reluctant and first time readers of any age; they engage English learners and older adults, and they keep people of all ages reading and exploring and connected.

Books – print and electronic – are always needed. One type is read-along books for new readers, reluctant readers, kids reading below grade level, English learners, and even adults. They're especially needed in library communities with low literacy rates.

Your gift will add books to help develop a reader, and open up new worlds. A new title averages about \$30.

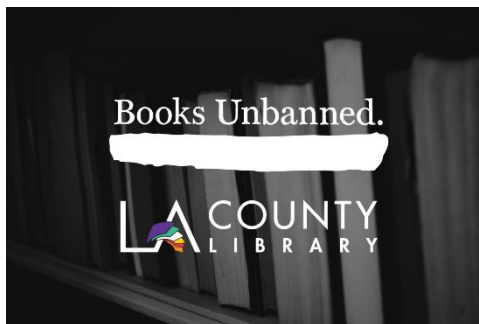
Summer Discovery Program is a terrific sponsorship opportunity. If you're interested in an investment with strong returns, email [Andrea Carroll](#), Executive Director or call her at 562.940.4189 to craft your unique sponsor opportunity.

eBooks & Audiobooks

FREE DOWNLOADS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Your digital Library is there for you 24/7. And the more titles there are, the more you have to choose from and the shorter (or no) wait you have for your next read or listen with your ebook or audiobook of choice.

With each gift of \$50, you'll help add one digital title or more.



Your freedom to read is a fundamental right. That's why your Library and Library Foundation have joined a national and audacious movement – Books Unbanned.

LA County Library's Books Unbanned card gives ANY teen in California free and unrestricted access to the Library's entire digital eBook and audiobook collection – including many frequently-banned titles.

Your gift supports a teen's right to read what they want, learn about themselves and others, and make informed decisions.

With your gift of \$50 or more, you'll also add a title to the Library's digital collection – of ebooks and audiobooks that reflect a range of ideas, information, and experiences.

Interested in making a large gift to promote the right to read? Email [Andrea Carroll](#), Executive Director or call – 562.940.4189 – to talk about crafting a partnership that works for you.



Cultural, arts, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) programming are fundamental to each of the Library's locations and the communities they serve.

Student artists (grades K-12) create bookmarks in an annual contest that's been running for 44 years, hosted by your Library with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

More than 10,000 young people participate, and 90,000 bookmarks – featuring the 20 winning designs – are distributed throughout the county each year.

Community libraries celebrate their local winners and all five Supervisors celebrate the grand prize winners and contest sponsor with a special reception.

Your gift of \$125 can fuel creativity for 50 student artists.

Interested in becoming a sponsor? You'll receive a range of benefits, including broad promotion to a stellar audience.

Email [Andrea Carroll](#), Executive Director or call – 562.940.4189 – to talk about crafting a partnership that works for you.



Celebrating diversity, promoting cultural understanding: Resource Centers at your Library

The Library has four cultural gems, each housed in a community library – Black Resource Center; American Indian Resource Center; Asian Pacific Resource Center; and Chicano Resource Center. They're unique to LA County Library: accessible to all – children, teens, and adults – and with resources for the public and academics.

They're essential: antidotes to a fragmented society, where people too often fear difference and lash out with hate. They are ways to explore and understand race, racism, civil rights, and protest. They're a place for conversation. A way to build inclusion and understanding in our community.

Your gift - whether it's \$30, \$100, \$1,000 or even more - can help add books and support cultural programs.

Hope you've enjoyed this mini guide to what you make happen with your generosity and commitment to your Library. This is just a taste...there's much more you can and do support.

Eager to learn more? Want to make a larger gift for your Library, or eager to craft a sponsorship?

Check out the [Library website](#) and/or call (562.940.4189) or email [Andrea Carroll](#) to learn more about how you can support your LA County Library, making lives and communities brighter.

Thank you and happy New Year!

Thank you, Library Champion!
You make a difference.

[Give Today](#)



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