



## Strengthening LA County Library with your support

**December, 2020**

*"When a friend asked me a while back how was I making it through the pandemic, I responded simply, 'I could not have done it without the LA County Library.'*

*And that's when I reached for my checkbook. Thank you."*

-Steven M.

Dear Library Champion,

Thank you!

You're using, supporting, and sharing Library resources. You're giving to the Library Foundation to strengthen your Library.

Maybe you, like Steven, have turned to the Library time and again this year - for entertainment, comfort, knowledge, and connection.

And it's not just during the pandemic, though perhaps, like me, you've discovered even more gems the Library offers. And how to use your Library in new ways.

**Your Library shapes lives. That's the story Audrey**, a PhD student in British Columbia, Canada, shares in this e-news.

She recently made gifts to the Library Foundation in celebration of her mom, "the most voracious reader I know," someone who discovered the Library as a kid in East LA.

Audrey's gift for her mom and the Foundation ensures that others enjoy similar life shaping opportunities the Library provides.

**As we wrap up 2020, we're highlighting some Library treasures for you** - packaged as time-honored wishes for health, wealth, and happiness.

And heads-up: we're starting a 10 day countdown to 2021!

Each day on the [Foundation's Facebook page](#) (with a break on December 25) we'll spotlight a Library gem - what it is, why it's needed, who uses it. Plus, how you can (and do) help meet that need.

We start today. We're celebrating Library Champions like you and Audrey and Steven, for whom your Library is a lifeline - now and when libraries physically reopen.

Read on for a taste of just a few of the ways your Library is serving you up health, wealth, and happiness.

**Thank you, Library Champion**, for your support, compassion, and sharing throughout this unforgettable year.

Wishing you a wonderful 2021,

Happy holidays!

ANDREA

Andrea Carroll  
Executive Director

P.S. Want to [gift someone with your donation](#)? When you make your gift, add their name and email address in the comments area.

We'll send them an e-card on December 24 telling them about your generous gift (without amount) - **make your gift by December 23** if you'd like them to know on the 24th.

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**My Library Story: Audrey, on**

# celebrating her mom with a gift to the Library Foundation



Audrey, with her mom and brother: "*To our family, the library was a wonderland where we could learn, play, or go on adventures to far-away lands through books.*"

"Both donations are a Christmas gift for my mom, who was born and raised in East Los Angeles.

Like many children in East LA, she grew up poor with limited access to books and reading materials.

Despite her limited access to resources, she absolutely loved to learn (and is still to this day the most voracious reader I know)!

My mom treasured the Library deeply. When my brother and I were growing up in LA, she took us to our local library regularly, always making sure we had a good book in hand.

To our family, the library was a wonderland where we could learn, play, or go on adventures to far-away lands through books.

I have so many fond memories of the library's reading programs, after-school trips, storytelling events, and much more!

In short - LA libraries will always have a special place in my heart.

LA libraries inspired my love of learning and education, which eventually got me to where I am now (currently working toward a PhD at The University of British Columbia)!

Continuing to ensure communities across LA have access to these incredible services is a cause my family (and especially my mom) deeply believes in supporting.

I am so deeply thankful for all the work you do and hope my gift helps to inspire another generation of readers and lifelong learners like my family and me."

## What's your Library Story?

[Email us!](#)

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**From Your Library to You: health,  
wealth & happiness (and lots of  
exploration along the way)**

When it comes to health, wealth, and happiness, look to your Library!

From online resources to materials you can pick up with Sidewalk Service (at 79 libraries), you're set for the New Year.

Don't forget, **there are plenty of ways to connect or get your research of homework question answered**, whether it's a chat with a librarian (Instant Librarian) or by phone, email, or text.

And drumroll please...you can now use free WiFi in participating library parking lots!

**Health has taken center stage in 2020**, from basic safety during a pandemic, to wider public awareness about systemic inequities associated with health and healthcare.

**The new year is an opportunity to take action**, to practice self-care and promote conditions and practices that lead to a healthier you and stronger communities.

The Library catalog is a good place to start - for physical and digital books, magazines, movies, and even music to zumba (or rhumba) by.

Plus, the Digital Library has all kinds of treats for you - whether you're interested in researching a medical condition, looking for ways to de-stress, or needing some fresh recipes for a new diet, looking for coronavirus updates, or anything in between.

You can also choose from the Library's weekly offerings of Virtual Programming, including: health & wellness videos; how-tos for community resiliency; and suggestions for mindful moments.

There are stress management resources for kids and teens, as well as yoga for teens; and Adult 101 programs like how to tie a necktie - activities to help you feel more confident and in control.

**Parents and caretakers have plenty of support, too:** Spanish and English language help every Wednesday with Parent-Ade: When Life Gives You Distance Learning; videos with Positive Parenting

Tips; one-on-one positive parenting consultations; and games and activities for you and your littlest ones.



image: pixabay/pexels

**Education is the foundation for economic success.** So, it's never too soon (or late) to get reading and learning.

Your Library has resources for babies and toddlers and their adults, kids, teens, and adults.

Plus special programming for reluctant readers, English language and literacy learners, students of all ages, veterans, people taking the journey to U.S. citizenship, and more.

**To address today's economic climate** - where many communities, especially low-income communities of color, have been devastated by job losses - **the Library recently launched Work Ready.**

This six-week employment assistance program provides weekly virtual presentations and videos (from cover letters, to interviewing, to identifying high-growth careers, to working from home).

Plus, when you register for the program, you can also sign up for a **free loan of a laptop and internet hotspot kit** (first come, first served) from one of 20 participating libraries.

These are **resources for people at all stages of the workforce:** from entry to mid-career to older adults.

If you or someone you know is looking for a job, interested in building work skills, or looking for a new career opportunity, this may be just what you're looking for.

Session 1 (of 6 sessions) is underway. You can sign up now for session 2, which starts in February.

**Don't need a device or internet access, but want help** looking for a job or thinking about a career shift? Register for a presentation (each Tuesday) or watch the week's YouTube video.

Check out the list of upcoming programs, including [networking tips and strategies](#); body language in interviews; [resume and cover letter basics](#); and the [art and science of making a career pivot](#).

Veterans can also take advantage of [Brainfuse VetNow/JobNow](#) for online one-on-one career development and job-seeking support and education help.

Whether you're looking for a job, or you're retired and just interested in new skills, as a lifelong learner you might be interested in one (or some) of the many classes available to you - check out the treats in [Tools for Job Seekers](#).

Your Library is here for you!

***"Now and then it's good to pause in our pursuit of happiness and just be happy."***

*Guillaume Appolinaire*

You're home (and maybe shuttling between work and home and grocery store), kids are home, and the holidays are here.

We're physically isolated as vaccines slowly roll out across the county, nation, and world, and we look ahead to moving more freely and optimistically.

This is a time to look to your Library. For [books, movies, and music](#). For [virtual programming](#), including Virtual Storytime M-Th at 11am on [Facebook](#) for babies and toddlers, and read-alouds for adults, too.

Join a book club, get a [bespoke book list](#), pick out a [DIY Library program](#), get outside and [explore as a citizen scientist](#), or get cooking, whether you're a [teen](#) new to the kitchen or a [seasoned chef](#).

Learn to make your own [marbled note cards](#), or [start a podcast](#), or [create a short film with your phone](#) - send them to someone you care about. It's a great (and likely, unexpected) way to connect.

Grab a book - electronic, audio, or paper - from [booklists](#) curated by topic and explore other worlds, other times, and other people.

Your Library is here for you, and your Library Foundation thanks you for keeping it strong with your use, gifts, and commitment.

**Here's to you** - wishing you good health, wealth, and happiness in 2021 and beyond!



## YOU MAKE AN IMPACT - THANK YOU

[Read about how you](#) and the Library Foundation are supporting your Library.

**Thank you for investing in a positive future for the children, young people, and adults of LA County!**

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### [DONATE today.](#)

P.S. You can make your gift a gift for someone who loves the Library.

When you [make your donation](#), write their name and email address in the comments section. If you do this by December 23, we'll send them an e-card on December 24th.

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