



May 2022

Hi Andrea,

May is a jam packed month at the Library, and as usual, there's something for everyone - to explore, experience, and take action.

You have a lot to choose from - a trove of treasures for [Asian American Pacific Islander Month](#), Jewish American Heritage Month, resources and activities for well-being during Mental Health Awareness Month and beyond, [supporting foster youth and families](#), and of course, great reads and lots of virtual programs.

Exciting news - in-person programming and new hours are in play! Check out what's happening on the [events page](#). You might find something at your local library...or maybe this is the time for you to visit another library and community.

Spring has sprung, and summer is on its way. Thank you for your tremendous support! You and your fellow Library Champions made April's *Library Giving Day* a marvelous success.

That means your Library Foundation can do even more to support your Library - adding to collections, fueling science, tech, engineering, arts, and math programming, connecting people with Library resources like the upcoming *Summer Discovery Program* (stay tuned for details), and more.

Thank you! And thank you in advance for sharing your stories and your vision for what you want your Library to be.

Read on...**Library Director Skye Patrick shares her *Library Story***. She's looking forward to meeting with you starting in September, as part of the Library's *Visioning Sessions*.

You, Library Champion, make a difference. As a donor, advocate, Library user. It all adds up, and we need your voice.

Library Champion Uyen V. reminded me of today's date...Friday the 13th!Counter to many, some who even experience paraskevidekatriaphobia (the fear of Friday the 13th), I've always reveled in this combo of dates.

That got me thinking about numbers. And how they might be lucky or unlucky for different people and cultures. **We're pleased to present a few *Fun Facts***.

Continuing your cultural journey and celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month, **read on for a *Virtual Field Trip to your Library's Asian Pacific Resource Center***.

For those of you who love to explore, check it out in person at the Rosemead Library!

You can also celebrate [Jewish American Heritage Month](#) with the Library - check out these great booklists and also two delicious recipes shared by Library Champions!

No need to stay virtual - Culver City Julian Dixon Library has a special [Judaica Collection](#) with Hebrew and Yiddish language books, and [Agoura Hills Library](#) has a Holocaust Collection and Hebrew books for children and adults. Interested in local Jewish history? Check out the [Californiana Collection](#) at Norwalk Library.

And please don't forget, **keep the love going...[share your story about a librarian or library worker who has helped bring some joy to your life](#)**. Check out some great stories, and share yours, on our [Librarian Stories](#) page.

You can honor your current librarian, a library worker from your childhood, a librarian you appreciate from another library system, or even another state or country.

Your story is important. Library stories help people understand the many and powerful ways libraries and library workers shape our lives and enrich our community.

Here's to you, and to your Library!

Thank you,

Andrea Carroll
Executive Director

P.S. [Your gift today supports your Library and brightens our future](#). **Thank you!**

My Library Story

Skye Patrick, LA County Library Director on *Your vision shapes your Library*



Image: LA County Library

*Library Director Skye Patrick took the helm of LA County Library in 2016. She launched her tenure with a series of community Visioning Sessions. As she writes below, listening to you is essential, and this September, **she'll start another series of Visioning Sessions with you this September.** Skye also recognized the value of a Foundation supported by Library Champions like you, and secured a grant from the City of Malibu to re-energize LA County Library Foundation starting in 2019.*

We asked Skye to share her story, and how she's looking to you to help shape the future of your Library. Here's what she said:

"When I was appointed the Director of LA County Library in 2016, I wanted the Library's focus to be on understanding our customers. As someone new to Los Angeles County, it was both critical and personal that I made room to understand our Library users.

We held a series of Visioning Sessions, where the public was invited to share their thoughts with me. This effort gave me a bird's-eye view of the need across our customer base, but also the opportunity to bridge the gaps in services, helping to formulate the Library's strategic goals for the next four years.

From 2017-2021, LA County Library was breaking down barriers to services and finding innovative solutions to address community challenges, even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, society changes through time and the needs of those we serve change along with it. Most recently, the pandemic changed the way many of us learn, work, and play, but also highlighted the digital divide in LA County and brought greater awareness to disparities in access.

The pandemic also provided an opportunity to step back and look at new and creative ways to continue serving our communities, while producing new service delivery models.

As we look to develop LA County Library's strategic plan for the *next* five years, I want to ensure we make a conscious effort to design programs and services that continue to meet your unique and diverse needs.

The Library will again be hosting a series of Visioning Sessions, which will take place virtually on Zoom throughout the month of September. Attendees will have an opportunity to provide feedback and recommendations, and I look forward to hearing from you!

Together, we can envision a better future for LA County communities."

What's your Library Story?
[Email us and let us know!](#)



Image: Polina Tankilevitch/pexels

Fun Facts

13, 888, 3s the charm, and more

- Today is the only Friday, the 13th we'll have in 2022.
- The iconic Hollywood sign (originally "Hollywoodland" to promote a new housing development - the sign was later edited to "Hollywood") was officially unveiled on Friday, July 13, 1923.
- The number 8, associated with wealth, is the luckiest number in China, and it's lucky in Japan, too. Next time you're in the San Gabriel Valley, check out the stores and eateries with 8, 88, or 888 in their name.
- Many religions also consider 8 to be auspicious -- Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Taoism.
- The 2008 Beijing Olympic Games started at 8 minutes and 8 seconds past 8 pm on the 8th day of the 8th month.
- Koreans and Italians like the number 3. They value its representation of strength and balance, and in the U.S., "Three's the charm."
- And back to 13...hard to think of something better than a baker's dozen!

Why choose 7 facts? Because that's another lucky number that cuts across cultures and religions.

Think: seven wonders of the world, 7 days to create the world, seven heavens in Islam and Judaism, harmony encompassed by yin, yang, and the five elements in Confucianism, seven underworlds in Hinduism, and of course, 7 days in a week, 7 notes in a scale, 7 colors in a rainbow, and for you punsters, seven ate nine.



Virtual Field Trip

Asian Pacific Resource Center

May is [Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#), established in this month to mark the immigration of the first Japanese to the U.S. in May 1843, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, a system largely built by Chinese American immigrants.

It's a month to recognize and celebrate the vibrant role of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) in our county's and nation's cultural mosaic, and to develop a lifelong understanding and appreciation of this diverse community - approximately 50 ethnic groups with roots in more than 40 countries, and speaking more than 100 languages.

Your Library, with its unique [Asian Pacific Resource Center](#) (APRC), is a great place to start. The APRC, established in 1979 at Rosemead Library, offers a range of materials, activities, and programs - for scholars and community members alike.

There's a lot on tap at the APRC, with core holdings on the history, art, and culture of China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Vietnam, Hawaii, and American Samoa.

You've got a great choice of materials - including fiction and non-fiction books, movies, magazines, and music - available in English, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese.

And as with all circulating materials in the Library's collection, you can place a hold on an item and have it delivered to your local library.



Image: LA County Library

Asian Pacific Resource Center (APRC) Librarian Katrina Lacerna invites you to explore the APRC - virtually and in person (at Rosemead Library). Find books, movies, magazines and music - in English, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese. Or head to the APRC for an arts workshop, or a music or dance performance. [Follow the APRC on Facebook](#).

You can read current major Asian newspapers, as well as access, on microfilm, more than 100 titles of historical Asian immigrant newspapers published in the U.S. You can also read detailed stories about the Japanese American incarceration during World War II - the center has newspapers and documents from those years on microfilm .

The APRC also provides specialized reference assistance and referral services to connect with community organizations that address the needs of Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

Interested in learning about these communities or simply scoring a good read or a cookbook that will help you make your own mouthwatering lumpia, garlic fried rice, or bibimbap? **Head over to the APRC (located in Rosemead Library).**

Or you can start virtually. Check out the [APRC Reading Room](#) on Overdrive. There, you'll find eBooks and audioBooks for nearly every interest - new Asian American fiction, the Japanese American Internment, Young Adult Authors and Characters, Empowering Asian Girls, Classic Asian Literature, Racial Equity and Social Justice, Asian Fantasy and Sci-Fi, and more.

Enjoy, and happy Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month...all year round!

Where do you want to go next?
[Let us know!](#)

Thank you, Library Champion!

Your support makes an impact.

Give Today



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