



Strengthening LA County Library with your support

January, 2021

Dear Library Champion,

I hope your 2021 is off to a positive start.

Thank you for supporting your Library, for helping deliver resources and solace during harsh times.

As we turn cautiously toward optimism, and like this month's *My Library Story*, embrace hope, please savor the impacts you made possible in 2020.

Feel excitement, as well, about what you'll support in 2021. This month we're taking a *Virtual Field Trip* to your Library Foundation.

Scroll down to *Fabulous Facts* to discover and enjoy some of the bounty your Library offers - for entertainment, comfort, knowledge, sustenance, and connection.

Thank you for supporting your Library - with your checkouts, stories, generous donations, and by spreading the word about how much you value your Library.

Happy 2021 to you!

ANDREA

Andrea Carroll
Executive Director

P.S. Know another Library Champion? Forward this enews. Thank you for getting the word out!

[Your gift makes a difference.](#)

My Library Story: Sara W, Gratitude for this year.



2020 was an awful year, but the Library saved me.

The words in the books I read reminded me that I wasn't the first human being to feel sadness, anger, loneliness, and fear all at the same time.

Those books found ways to inspire me, distract me, teach me empathy and provide me with hope during the darkness.

That hope gave me a connection to life and helped me find the strength that humanity will come out of this better than before.

I'm sure I'm not the only reader who feels this way. Thank you for all that you do!

A very grateful reader,

Sara

What's your Library Story?

[Email us!](#)

[Read more Library stories here.](#)

Virtual Field Trip: Your LA County Library Foundation



Chris Obrion/Roanoke Times

Small and mighty. That's your LA County Library Foundation.

Sited at Library Headquarters in Downey, California, and with an Executive Director and 11 member board of directors, it's small.

And with you, the Library Foundation is mighty!

You're a vital partner, crucial to supporting and strengthening your Library.

That's why the Library Foundation, started in 1982 and with your help revitalized starting in 2019, exists: to raise funds and create partnerships that help LA County Library enrich the lives of millions of children, teens, and adults with free programs, services and resources.

Thank you!

You're a Library Champion - a donor, an ambassador sharing news about your Library, an advocate for libraries and the value they bring to your life and your community.

Library Foundation supporters come from each of the Library's 85 community locations, as well as from far beyond - other cities in California, other states, and even other countries, including Mexico and Canada.

LA County Library makes a powerful impact. You're supporting one of the largest largest public library systems in the US - serving a community of 10 million people spread across more than 3,000 square miles of diverse terrain and socioeconomic landscapes.

In 2020, your donations made an impact, including:

- Enriching Library collections (electronic and physical materials) and literacy programming
- Providing 3D printers to make PPE equipment for hospital workers; you'll be able to use the printers for your own STEAM projects when physical locations reopen
- Bolstering virtual programming with equipment and online *Make at Home* maker sessions
- Meeting needs at library locations, from collections to programming, to physical needs for reopening, and
- Educating and building awareness to engage more people in using and supporting Library programming, resources, and services - free and welcoming to all.

The pandemic exposed tragic inequities across LA County. It also shone a spotlight on LA County Library and its role as a builder of community, a center of civil participation and understanding.

With your support in 2021, your Library Foundation is poised to do even more to strengthen the Library - because public dollars don't cover all that the Library provides to meet community needs.

With you, this year the Foundation will enrich the Library's work in vital areas:

- Literacy
- Education, including STEAM programming, and lifelong learning for all ages
- Work readiness and workforce development, and

- Cultural and racial understanding, equity, and inclusion.

You create an ever deeper and wider base of community-based advocates for the Library.

You're helping build a better today and a more positive future.

There's a lot in store for you in February...Black History Month, the Lunar New Year, and the accompanying feast of resources and activities from the Library's Resource Centers, to highlight just a couple.

Stay tuned - we'll keep you posted about resources, places, and programming, and about the good you're making possible.

In the meantime, check out the [Library Foundation's website](#) to learn more, or [send us an email](#).

Fabulous Facts: Your LA County Library

You've probably gotten to know about - and enjoy - a lot more Library resources since the pandemic started.

I'm betting, though, your Library has even more surprises for you. Read on.

- There's a curated [Inauguration Day](#) section on the Library's website - with something for everyone, from kids to adults.
- All Sidewalk Service locations now offer, free with your LA County Library card, a three-week loan of a [laptop and personal hotspot](#) to access the Internet.
- [Parking lot Wi-Fi](#) is available, free, at several library locations.
- Parents and caretakers can get tips each week with [Parent-Ade](#) (presented in English and Spanish) as well as one-to-one phone consultations with Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) librarians.

- Look no further for a bespoke book list, just [fill out this form](#) and you'll have a curated list within a week.

To put these marvelous offerings in context - all designed to meet your needs during these unique times - your Library is delivering even in the face of budget cuts.

In addition, more than one-third of all Library staff is working outside the Library as disaster service workers (assisting at vaccination centers, making calls as contact tracers, distributing food, and helping people without housing, to name a few of their roles).

Use of the Library, with digital and physical materials continues to climb. In fact, the number of holds has surpassed those pre-pandemic!

Your donations and your use of the Library are crucial.

You make an impact.

Thank you!

Thank you for keeping your Library strong.

[You can make a difference with your gift - today.](#)

Thank you for investing in a positive future!

Our Contact Information

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