The Library Foundation of Los Angeles is launching the 2014 Membership Match Challenge (see page 5). The Central Library’s Getty Gallery was transformed while, over a 7-hour period, 107 people read aloud from Homer’s 3,000-year-old epic poem. What struck me about this day was not only the idea that a true cross-section of Los Angeles could come together for this remarkable undertaking, but that the event was only one of a number of exciting programs happening at that moment in libraries across the city.

While school children, scholars, civic leaders, well-known actors and singers, poets, librarians, and the general public were all arriving to read The Odyssey, hundreds of others were at the Library to participate in the Money Matters financial planning seminar, a program that offers free, one-on-one, personalized financial advice sessions and workshops on budgeting, saving, and home ownership, among other topics. What was evident to all was the attraction of the public library as a place where people were willing to put their trust. Each individual had come to this place because they could count upon the professional knowledge, the goodwill, and the integrity of its staff.

A Library is bigger than a building when it is at the heart of its community; when it is filled with families and students and scholars; when librarians are as likely to put a book into your hands as to provide you with the latest technology, or even offer you the opportunity to hear Homer read aloud in ancient Greek! Thank you to the Members of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles and to our supporters. May you flourish and be well in the New Year.

—Ken Brecher, President

Ways to Give

1. Visit us online at lfla.org/support/join
2. Call the Membership department at 213.292.6242
3. Mail your Membership form and payment to 630 West Fifth Street Los Angeles, CA 90071

Spread the Word

Think of how many people you know who have been touched by the Library. Encourage your friends and loved ones to join the Library Foundation and give them the opportunity to help millions of people in Los Angeles realize their full potential by supporting equal access to ideas, books, information, and technology.

Keeping an eye out for 2015 for the Library Foundation’s exciting new project to celebrate the rich—and untold—history of restaurants and food in the City of Angeles, To Live and Dine in L.A. will spotlight the Los Angeles Public Library’s vast menu collection through a new book, exhibition, and public programs. Visit toliveanddine.info to watch the project unfold.

Come Soon: To Live and Dine in L.A.

Library Foundation News

Members Meet Your Match: Your Donation Will Be Doubled

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles is launching the 2014 Membership Match Challenge (see page 5). The Central Library’s Getty Gallery was transformed while, over a 7-hour period, 107 people read aloud from Homer’s 3,000-year-old epic poem. What struck me about this day was not only the idea that a true cross-section of Los Angeles could come together for this remarkable undertaking, but that the event was only one of a number of exciting programs happening at that moment in libraries across the city.

While school children, scholars, civic leaders, well-known actors and singers, poets, librarians, and the general public were all arriving to read The Odyssey, hundreds of others were at the Library to participate in the Money Matters financial planning seminar, a program that offers free, one-on-one, personalized financial advice sessions and workshops on budgeting, saving, and home ownership, among other topics. What was evident to all was the attraction of the public library as a place where people were willing to put their trust. Each individual had come to this place because they could count upon the professional knowledge, the goodwill, and the integrity of its staff.

A Library is bigger than a building when it is at the heart of its community; when it is filled with families and students and scholars; when librarians are as likely to put a book into your hands as to provide you with the latest technology, or even offer you the opportunity to hear Homer read aloud in ancient Greek! Thank you to the Members of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles and to our supporters. May you flourish and be well in the New Year.

—Ken Brecher, President
The Library Foundation Celebrates 22 Years

On September 20, supporters of the Library Foundation gathered at the historic California Club to celebrate the Foundation’s 22nd anniversary with a gala to benefit the Los Angeles Public Library. This year’s benefit honored Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Junot Díaz with the Los Angeles Public Library Literary Award and bestselling author Judith Krantz with the Foundation’s Light of Learning Award for her devoted advocacy for the Library. Before Díaz and Krantz accepted their awards, guests were treated to a moving speech by author A. Scott Berg about Krantz’s literary influence and love of the Library, as well as a beautiful reading from Díaz’s work by actress Zooey Deschanel.

“Libraries fundamentally give the imagination superpowers.”
—Junot Díaz

Throughout the month of October, Angelenos joined the Library Foundation and the Los Angeles Public Library for an epic quest to reinterpret Homer’s Odyssey through a Southern California lens. From over 70 Odyssey-themed activities at the branch libraries for children, teens, and adults, to bike riding with the Cyclops, to pop-up appearances by a commemorative Homer Simpson poster, Angelenos engaged with Homer’s tale of adventure and endurance like never before.

The L.A. Odyssey Project culminated with a marathon reading of the epic poem at the Central Library. Honoring the great oral tradition of Homer, actors Bradley Whitford, Rhea Perlman, and Cloris Leachman, along with Greek scholars and the voice of Homer Simpson, Dan Castellaneta, read aloud from The Odyssey as a final send-off to this special literary celebration.

“Libraries provide you with the fulcrum to move the universe.”
—Junot Díaz

Los Angeles Times writer-at-large Tom Curwen,former US Marine captain (ret.) and mental health/trauma program developer Dan Bigelow, along with Greek scholars and the voice of Homer Simpson, Dan Castellaneta, read aloud from The Odyssey as a final send-off to this special literary celebration.
Eras Colliding: Patton Oswalt at ALOUD

You’ve watched a lot of films at the New Beverly Cinema, but you also watch films at library programs. What’s the importance of watching films in a communal setting for you? How does a library screening differ from other cinematic experiences?

Oswalt: Watching films in a communal setting adds a subconscious dimension to the movie that no one—not the director, writers, actors, and not even each individual audience member—would anticipate. It’s a part of the experience. Something that you bring your shoulders at watching alone—or that a director, writer, and actor conceived and executed as a means to get from point A to point B—can suddenly become a laugh, or a scream, or a gush of empathy to an audience, wired together emotionally in the dark.

Watching a film in a library adds another aspect—the feeling of eras colliding and batting each other. You’re surrounded by books, which used to be movies for the masses, and there they sit, like tombstones, while up there on the screen is a moving glow which pushed you through different windows at the way someone who didn’t me interpreted reality. Any window—page of books and never re-emerged as have dissolved their consciousness online.

You often take your daughter to the Los Angeles Public Library. Can you talk about your visits to the library? Why is the library important to you as a father?

Oswalt: I never go with a specific thing I want to do or don’t want to do. Mainly I like her seeing people excited to get into the stacks, to thumb through pages, to brush up against other minds.

Although your main passion is film, you are also very literary—you’ve written two books and you were a central figure in comedy, film, and television, including roles in Young Adult, Big Fan, and Ratatouille. How do you create a space where students will want to crack open their books after school? A space that’s safe and inviting, a space that’s cool, but also functional? How do you enhance the experience?

Oswalt: Any new form of communication can enhance the world we live in—see the people in Times Square if they think Twitter is a threat—but, like anything, it can get misused or, worse, replace life. There are just as many people who have fallen into the pages of books and never re-emerged as have dissolved their consciousness online.

How do you create a space where students will want to crack open their books after school? A space that’s safe and inviting, a space that’s cool, but also functional? I think it’s really fun to create areas without architecture—like the idea of a treehouse,” says architect Cory Grooner. “If you’re a kid and you build a treehouse, it’s your space that’s separate from the house or from your parents, and there’s some independence and ownership of that space.” Cory Grooner Design + Strategy was contracted last fall by the Library Foundation to reimagine Student Zones at 10 branch libraries.

Student Zones offer children and teens access to dedicated furniture, computers, and equipment during the after-school hours, including books, free printing, supplies, and learning resources. “Libraries are already a champion for students—Student Zones are a central space within the library where they can find the resources they need to complete homework and ultimately graduate high school and pursue their dreams,” says Imari Harri, an associate director at the Library Foundation who is overseeing the renovations of Student Zones.

By using modern furnishings, bright colors, and different seating postures—from stools with a laptop bar around a sofa to floor seating—these new micro-spaces will accommodate the different work habits of all students. “I just want to make these spaces so that kids want to be there,” says Grooner. “Our belief is that good design will increase the usage of the Student Zones and that they will choose to attend their local library for after school activities because it is a cool and functional place to be.”

Last year, over 30,000 used Student Zones, and the Foundation hopes these improvements will inspire even more students to use those hubs, which also serve as anchor points to other free student resources like Live Homework Help and Student Smart. In addition to the redesign, Student Zone helpers have been added at 10 branches to assist kids with their homework and computer questions, and the Foundation hopes to expand the zones to all 71 neighborhood libraries within the next five years.

SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, March 1, 2015

The 27th Annual Stay Home and Read a Book Ball
with Chair Junot Diaz is just around the corner. Be on the lookout for more details!

Questions? Contact Erin Sapinoso, Associate Director of Foundation and Corporate Relations at 312.281.2148 or ernisapinoso@lfla.org.

Zoning in on Ideal Study Spaces

By using modern furnishings, bright colors, and different seating postures—from stools with a laptop bar around a sofa to floor seating—these new micro-spaces will accommodate the different work habits of all students. “I just want to make these spaces so that kids want to be there,” says Grooner. “Our belief is that good design will increase the usage of the Student Zones and that they will choose to attend their local library for after school activities because it is a cool and functional place to be.”

Last year, over 30,000 used Student Zones, and the Foundation hopes these improvements will inspire even more students to use those hubs, which also serve as anchor points to other free student resources like Live Homework Help and Student Smart. In addition to the redesign, Student Zone helpers have been added at 10 branches to assist kids with their homework and computer questions, and the Foundation hopes to expand the zones to all 71 neighborhood libraries within the next five years.
The Library Foundation Calendar

Winter 2014 – 2015

Monday, December 1, 7:30 PM
The Eleanor Theatre at USC

The Universal Tone: Bringing My Story to the Stage
An Evening with Carlos Santana
In conversation with Reel Cheek to Martin
One of the most influential and celebrated musicians of our time, Carlos Santana shares the story of his life from his humble childhood in Mexico, to his emergence on the pivotal rock underground in San Francisco and the explosion of his musical career. In his new memoir, The Universal Tone, Santana’s authentic voice and unparalleled story-telling engages a level of passion and soul equal to the legendary charge of his guitar. From collaborations with other greats like Miles Davis and Herbie Hancock to his newest album, Mas, Pranbali and Silk Notes, hear the remarkable life story of a musician Rolling Stone has called one of the greatest guitarists of all time.

Tickets: lfla.org/aloud

Thursday, January 16, 7:45 PM
On Such a Full Sea: A Novel Chang-rae Lee
In conversation with novelist Charles Yu
Lee, a deeply influential writer about race, class and immigrant life in America, sets his gripping and fiercely imagined new novel in a chilling dystopia, where abandoned post-industrial factories have been converted into forced-labor colonies populated with immigrant workers. The fate of the world may lie in the hands of one nearly-unnamed Paul, a beautiful fish tank diver, who enters the colony by running away. Join Lee and the story-writing students of Charles Yu (author of I Was Seven in the Springtime) for this conversation on alternatives and the power of a strong story to change the way we see the world.

Wednesday, January 28, 7:45 PM
Race and Image at the Twilight of the Obama Era
Jhentia Chin and Justin Simila
In conversation with journalist Erin Doherty-Kaplan
In the waning days of the Obama era, artists and young people are shaping our discussion about race through activism, social media, film, and art. Author Jennifer Chin’s newest book Who We Are: The Colorization of America examines comic strip origins and contemporary art, campus protests and corporate marketing campaigns for a fresh look at America’s racial divide. Director Justin Simila’s Dear White People film tops into the unmask of “post-racial” hype among college students of color. Jin Chang and Simila in a talk about how art and writing are speaking to this moment, and how the world is changing — or not — a result of these young voices.

Wednesday, February 4, 7:45 PM
Guardiano’s Diary
An evening with Garriott Chaves
In conversation with Garriot Chaves
This provocative and thought-provoking read will be a must for fans of The Claremont Colleges performance and talk program, Colloquium. This fast-paced narrative of a black man slaying another – and a driven crew of detectives whose resolve is to pursue justice for forgotten victims at all cost – this fast-paced narrative of a devastating crime in South Los Angeles provides a new lens into the great subject of why murder happens in America — and the place of red-state politics. After the screening, join social activists for this discussion on alternate realities and the power of a riveting story to change the world.

Tuesday, February 18, 7:30 PM
Walt Disney Concert Hall

The Sculptor: An Evening with David Axelrod
Co-presented with Wally Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts
In conversation with David Axelrod
In conversation with Elvis Mitchell

As the majority of ALOUD programs are free — and because we overbook in order to ensure a full house — it is our policy to overbook. In the event of a last-minute change of the last decade. Reservations are strongly recommended.

To support programs made possible by the Library Foundation, call 310.235.9801 ext. 8480.

Tickets: lfla.org/aloud

For more information on the LAFLA's凇Winter 2014 programs please visit the LAFLA website at lfla.org/aloud

NOT PRINTED AT CITY EXPENSE
Shop The Library Store this holiday season and benefit the Los Angeles Public Library! You can find unique gifts from our carefully crafted collection that are sure to help you knock a few names off your list.

If you can’t get your sleigh downtown to our shop in the beautiful Central Library, you can visit us online or check out The Library Store On Wheels.

For the Young at Heart
1. Basile the Dog: Wooden Pull Toy $35
2. Press Here: The Game $19.99
3. Build the Rocket $19.95

For the Literary Lady
4. Claudia Pearson Los Angeles Tea Towel $18.95
5. La Petite Pomme Candles $30/each
6. Cotton & Flax Set of 4 Felt Confetti Coasters $30

For the Animal Advocate
7. Cats Shoulder Tote $48
8. Woof Porcelain Mug $16

For the Book Fiend
9. Film in Five Seconds $16.99
10. Smart Phone Projector $32.95

For the White Elephant
11. Fresh-Brewed Coffee Notes $9.95
12. Yellow Ducks Bath Soap $40
13. Non-Essential Mementos $46.95
14. For Temporary Tattoos $8.95

Shop online at lfla.org/store
Shopping at The Library Store benefits the Los Angeles Public Library.

Follow Us:
Facebook.com/TheLibraryStore
@TheLibraryStore
@TheLibraryStore

For the White Elephant
14. Fresh-Brewed Coffee Notes $9.95
15. Yellow Ducks Bath Soap $40
16. Non-Essential Mementos $46.95
17. For Temporary Tattoos $8.95

For the Animal Advocate
7. Cats Shoulder Tote $48
8. Woof Porcelain Mug $16

For the Book Fiend
9. Film in Five Seconds $16.99
10. Smart Phone Projector $32.95

For the Young at Heart
1. Basile the Dog: Wooden Pull Toy $35
2. Press Here: The Game $19.99
3. Build the Rocket $19.95

For the Literary Lady
4. Claudia Pearson Los Angeles Tea Towel $18.95
5. La Petite Pomme Candles $30/each
6. Cotton & Flax Set of 4 Felt Confetti Coasters $30

For the Animal Advocate
7. Cats Shoulder Tote $48
8. Woof Porcelain Mug $16

For the Book Fiend
9. Film in Five Seconds $16.99
10. Smart Phone Projector $32.95

For the White Elephant
11. Fresh-Brewed Coffee Notes $9.95
12. Yellow Ducks Bath Soap $40
13. Non-Essential Mementos $46.95
14. For Temporary Tattoos $8.95

For the Young at Heart
1. Basile the Dog: Wooden Pull Toy $35
2. Press Here: The Game $19.99
3. Build the Rocket $19.95

For the Literary Lady
4. Claudia Pearson Los Angeles Tea Towel $18.95
5. La Petite Pomme Candles $30/each
6. Cotton & Flax Set of 4 Felt Confetti Coasters $30

For the Animal Advocate
7. Cats Shoulder Tote $48
8. Woof Porcelain Mug $16

For the Book Fiend
9. Film in Five Seconds $16.99
10. Smart Phone Projector $32.95

For the White Elephant
11. Fresh-Brewed Coffee Notes $9.95
12. Yellow Ducks Bath Soap $40
13. Non-Essential Mementos $46.95
14. For Temporary Tattoos $8.95
The Library Foundation of Los Angeles provides critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library resulting in free programs, resources and services available to thousands of adults, children and youth in Los Angeles. We accomplish this mission through fundraising, advocacy and innovative programs that strengthen the Library and promote greater awareness of its valuable resources.

Give the Gift of Membership this Holiday Season and support free access to information and the civic, cultural, and educational core of our community.

Become a Member of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles to strengthen the Los Angeles Public Library!
More information on page 2 inside.

lfla.org
213.228.7500