

Summer 2021

News and Calendar



The brand new Los Angeles Public Library Outreach Van, donated by Toyota. See page 5 for more information.



Ken Brecher with Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer; emceeing the LFLA's bilingual spelling bee; greeting attendees at Young Literati's Family Day.



Note from the President

In a recent Los Angeles Times podcast by Gustavo Arellano, in conversation with Patt Morrison, I heard them reference several of the milestones that I have seen at the library in the past decade. While listening to them, I reflected on the passing of Measure L, which increased library access for all Angelenos, the creation of the Octavia Lab at Central Library that allows library patrons to engage with the latest technology in a state-of-the-art makerspace, and watching the Library provide a platform to upcoming talent like Amanda Gorman, who has gone on to not only impress Los Angeles, but the entire country.

Most library systems are intellectual epicenters but the Los Angeles Public Library is more than that. It stands out from the crowd with its brave and bold ideas—and willingness to reach just a bit further to engage individual communities. This is what has made leading the Library Foundation of Los Angeles so worthwhile; we get to support one of the greatest institutions in the city.

When I first began writing these letters to our wonderful Members, I was asked a series of questions about my strongest impressions of the branch libraries and

what I knew (at the time) about libraries that others might not. But the most compelling question in the series was: “What is the future of libraries in such a technology driven world?” I can say without a doubt that the future of libraries is infinite. Many Angelenos learned this last year as we saw the LAPL swiftly and efficiently rise to the occasion with increasing e-card access, Library-to-Go, librarians on call to answer any and all of our questions, Library staff stepping up as contact tracers for the city’s disaster relief efforts and more. While we all tried to find our footing in a devastating global experience that has made a permanent shift in our lives, the Library held our hands with curated book collections for our little ones and virtual programs to keep us connected.

As we move forward, I am more excited than ever about the work the Library Foundation of Los Angeles is doing with the LAPL. We have just created a new Fellows Program that will bring some of the most brilliant and creative individuals to share their talents with the public in libraries across our city. Our upcoming clubs and societies exhibition is scheduled for the spring and will further explore how we connect with one another and what we

have learned about ourselves during this past year of isolation. We are stepping up on our long-term commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion and I am very proud of the work that is being done. Our Teens Leading Change (Democracy Project) is having its first national application in Montana and we are getting ready for our next Pacific Standard Time project through the Getty Foundation that will focus on art and science. As always, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles is supporting the Library through our fundraising efforts but also through complementary programming that I believe can be transformative for both individuals and communities.

I am grateful for the tsunami of letters and calls from Members of the Foundation after the announcement of my retirement in September. It has been my pleasure to work for an organization as remarkable as the Library Foundation of Los Angeles. I am leaving a team of phenomenal people at the LFLA and the LAPL who are dedicated to the mission of the Library and the desire to change Los Angeles and the world through the power of libraries. I am confident that both organizations are set to embark on their boldest and best work yet.

Ken Brecher, President

LFLA News

A New Fellowship at the Los Angeles Public Library

With tremendous excitement, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles in partnership with the Los Angeles Public Library is pleased to announce the creation of a new interdisciplinary fellowship program. This program will cultivate the creative power found in communities across Los Angeles through a dynamic endowed fellowship program that has been generously jump-started with a major gift from the Lenore S. and Bernard A. Greenberg Fund, with thanks also to the support of Kitty Greenberg.

Slated to launch before the Fall of 2021, this fellowship program is envisioned to elevate the

work of a diverse array of practitioners, including artists, writers, thinkers, makers, performers, podcasters, entrepreneurs, researchers, composers, organizers, scientists, master gardeners, genealogists, astronomers, programmers, and other creative specialists. The fellows will deeply interconnect with the collections and services of LAPL branches across the city, and their unique perspectives and creative processes will be leveraged to augment and reimagine the Library’s offerings, transforming the library experience for teens, youth, adults, and families. The purpose of the fellowship is to engage, inspire, and benefit the

communities that the Library serves for years to come, as we reimagine the Library of tomorrow.

LFLA is immensely grateful for this transformative gift, which will build a program that is unique to one of the most important cultural and educational institutions of our city—the Los Angeles Public Library. We look forward to sharing more in the coming months as the first fellows are announced and begin their groundbreaking, progressive work.

Library Foundation of Los Angeles Core Values, and Statement on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

The LFLA understands the importance of creating a welcoming and safe environment for staff, and making a public commitment to evolving as an organization. With the help of national consulting firm Turning West, the LFLA staff has created the following statements which will work to address organizational goal-setting, acknowledge the challenges faced by the underrepresented groups we work to serve, and the important work we still have to do in these areas.

Core Values	Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
High Achievement <i>We set high bars for performance</i>	WE BELIEVE:
Accountability <i>Each of us is responsible for our individual and team outcomes</i>	In JUSTICE as a transformative process that requires a continuous commitment to pursuing the goals of equity, diversity, and inclusion in our communities. Justice is a constant practice of the values outlined within this statement and a proactive pursuit of healing and growth.
Empathy <i>Our work is defined by caring for others</i>	
Learning <i>Learning enables growth</i>	That EQUITY should level the playing field for those with limited resources, as well as contribute to internal growth in our organization. The core of our fundraising is to create equitable opportunities for all Angelenos to gain free access to information through Los Angeles Public Library programs. We hope to eliminate barriers as we further implement equity into our everyday organizational culture.
Curiosity <i>Brave, bold questions help us evolve</i>	
Adaptability <i>We welcome change</i>	That DIVERSITY is a concept that celebrates our various backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints; it is not just a noun that refers to numbers, statistics, or checked boxes. Striving for variety alone does not effectively address systemic inequities or injustices, and it does not automatically foster inclusion.
Partnerships <i>We do our work by building bridges</i>	
Collaboration <i>Respect and communication build successful teams</i>	WE ACKNOWLEDGE that the experiences of marginalized communities of all kinds are still marked by biases, prejudices, and in the worst cases, illegal action. We are responsible for our own learning and growth in matters of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. This means being open minded and willing to engage in honest and respectful conversations.
	WE COMMIT to setting and reinforcing values that uphold justice and equity in the workplace. We further commit to ensuring these values inform strategic plans and goal-setting across our organization to promote equitable practices and alignment with our vision and our mission to those we serve. We understand that there is much more work to be done, but we commit to always being on the forward path to growth.

Rolling Out a Grand Reopening



“Libraries are the civic and cultural heartbeat of our communities, and an extraordinary resource for Angelenos looking to fire up their imaginations and pursue their dreams,” said Mayor Eric Garcetti. In early May, the Los Angeles Public Library launched its gradual restoration of services following the closure of all libraries last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. “Our next phase in reopening our library doors marks the next step toward reintegrating this critical entry point for learning, literacy, and literature back into the everyday lives of our residents—and another crucial marker on our road to recovery,” added the Mayor.

As the library continues its rolling reopening, it is offering select services at libraries across the city, while focusing on creating safe and welcoming spaces for everyone. Services include quick browsing, computer access, pick up of holds and mobile printing orders, and checking out of materials inside libraries.

“We are excited to be starting this new chapter, and we know Angelenos have missed us as much as we have missed them,” said City Librarian John F. Szabo. “We are thrilled to see our patrons return, and we’re committed to offering everyone a safe and welcoming experience.”

Library staff across the city share Szabo’s enthusiasm as they have been eagerly engaged in the reopening. When you first step foot into one of the



Images courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library

libraries, you are likely to be met with cheery greetings from welcome stations and beautiful book displays and bulletin boards prepared by librarians to showcase services and resources.

Many Angelenos who are excited to return to their neighborhood library have also been sharing their gratitude for the online services they depended on during the closures last year. Silver Lake Branch Library is one branch that reopened in early June, and a patron named Amy recently posted her gratitude on the Silver Lake Branch Facebook page:

“Thank you for being a lifeline during the pandemic. My five year old doesn’t want to play with toys anymore because she gets so absorbed in the books we get from your branch every week. You have helped inspire the next generation of voracious readers.”

From downloading e-books to online homework help and research tools for remote students and learners of all ages, the Library’s online services will continue to be available. But whether in person or online, the Library remains a cornerstone of the community that everyone can depend on to stay connected, informed, and inspired.

For a complete list of open libraries and services, visit lapl.org/reopening or #LAPLreopen on social media for updates.



Honk if You Love Libraries! Toyota Helps to Mobilize the Los Angeles Public Library



“Libraries nurture literacy, creativity, and civic engagement at its broadest level, and Toyota is honored to support their mission,” said Thomas Crahan, Toyota’s VP of Product Planning & Strategy. Crahan is a longtime Library Foundation of Los Angeles Board Member and library advocate who understood just how valuable a donated Toyota Previa van had been to the Los Angeles Public Library for nearly three decades.

After thousands of miles of use bringing resources to members of the community who were not always able to get to the physical locations, the Library retired its beloved vehicle. When Crahan heard that the Library was in need of an upgrade, he immediately reached out to his colleague Shawn Domeracki, who manages Toyota’s Los Angeles region. Domeracki was excited to give back to the community he serves. “Our organization is more than just vehicle sales and servicing cars—it’s really about giving mobility. When you’re able to move, then anything is

possible. You’re able to see your family, you’re able to live your daily life, you’re able to get knowledge, which is what the Library is providing,” said Domeracki.

In May, the Southern California Toyota Dealers Association (TDA) through LFLA, donated a new 2021 Toyota Sienna to support community outreach, outdoor programming, and delivery of materials to and from the 73 libraries throughout Los Angeles. “We’re so excited to have a safe, environmentally-friendly, 21st century vehicle to help us get the word out about all of the wonderful resources that the Library has to offer teens, children, their parents, caregivers, and educators!” said Candice Mack, the managing librarian of Teen Services.

The van has been essential to supporting outreach for programs like Teens Leading Change and Read Baby Read. With the city covering 450 square miles and young patrons who may have access and mobility issues, the new hybrid van will help to expand services for youth and their parents and caregivers. “One of our goals has always been to be embedded in the community and to meet our patrons where they are so that we can better collaborate with each other. The new van makes it possible for us to do that more effectively and with more flexibility,” said Mack.

As the Library continues to expand its reopening of locations across the city, the timing of the new van hitting the pavement is perfect to raise awareness for the wide-ranging educational and cultural programs and services. This summer, look for the Toyota Sienna rolling through your neighborhood as librarians welcome families back through mobile story walks, pop-up storytimes, and more fun interactive outdoor outreach programs.

Teens Demonstrate Democracy Now

Libraries have long been leaders in their communities, and the Democracy Project - Teens Leading Change (TLC) program empowers young people to get engaged as well. This past May, the Los Angeles Public Library and the Library Foundation of Los Angeles hosted a special Zoom celebration to showcase the visionary work of this past school year’s teen leaders.

Kicking off the event, Magistrate Judge Karen Stevenson, who also serves on the LFLA board, reflected on the meaning of democracy, “Democracy is the idea that the citizens of a country should take an active role,” said Judge Stevenson. “It’s not some dim and distant activity you do when you are finally old enough to vote. No, you are demonstrating democracy right now.” Judge Stevenson applauded the teens for taking on some of the most challenging problems that our community is currently facing like education equity, food insecurity, and mental health.

Many of this cycle’s projects directly confronted issues that were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics included: inequalities in education that worsened due to remote learning; focusing on mental health struggles during the pandemic; inequities in access to technology

and the internet; social justice in relationship to the school-to-prison pipeline; and urban food insecurities. Although the school year has ended, the teens will continue to work on their passion projects.



Sample slide from the Pio Pico and Memorial Branch Library programs, which focused on urban food insecurities by advocating for a community garden space in the Koreatown neighborhood.

Chinatown’s Multi-Layered History Comes to Life

“No matter how much the odds are stacked against you, and no matter how many times you are beaten down and belittled and told, no, you can’t be here...you know who you are. You know your worth, you know that you have an entire community and entire family that will back you up,” reflected Cindy Yan, a UCLA student who grew up in Chinatown and received a scholarship from the Friends of the Chinatown Library. Resilience, vision, and tradition are just a few of the themes explored in a new online exhibition and outdoor installation that are as relevant to Los Angeles Chinatown today as they were a century ago.

Launched in May, **“Stories and Voices from L.A. Chinatown,”** is a collaboration between The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens; the Library Foundation of Los Angeles; and the Los Angeles Public Library. Community members reacted to dozens of photographs, documents, illustrations, restaurant menus, and maps drawn from The Huntington’s and LAPL’s vast collections to offer a window into the past. The project is the first in the series **Archive Alive**, which aims to bring archival materials to life through the stories and memories of the people who have lived that history.



Lion dance for Chinese New Year in New Chinatown Central Plaza (1940s). Los Angeles Public Library, Harry Quillen Photo Collection.

Experience this history online at exhibits.lapl.org/chinatown or visit the outdoor exhibition in Chinatown’s Central Plaza at 942 N Hill Street.



Building rendering for You Chung Hong by Erle Webster and Adrian Wilson, architects (c. 1936). The Huntington Library, Roger S. Hong Collection.

“When you visit Chinatown, you might get a sense that the area has a rich and unique history, not to mention the beautiful architecture and great food. But what you don’t see is the remarkable tenacity and communal effort required to build this during a time when racist, exclusionary policies were the law of the land,” said Todd Lerew, Director of Special Projects for LFLA and one of the co-curators for this exhibition. Los Angeles’ Chinatown was the first in North America to be planned and owned by people of Chinese descent. The story of Los Angeles’ New Chinatown began in 1938, after the demolition of Old Chinatown to make way for Union Station.

“By capturing the stories of people with deep ties to the neighborhood in their own words, it really provides context and deeper insight for the challenges such as xenophobia and gentrification they continue to face today,” Lerew added. “Stories and Voices from L.A. Chinatown” highlights many voices from entrepreneurs and small business owners who earn their livelihood in Chinatown, to the generations of families that have called this neighborhood home. The project hopes to inspire a new appreciation for the vital role of Chinatown in the evolution of Los Angeles as we know it.



Mayor Tom Bradley and community leader and restaurateur Mama Quon celebrate the 50th Anniversary of New Chinatown (1988). Los Angeles Public Library, Herald Examiner Photo Collection.

On the Digital Frontline with Cybernauts



Maybe you’re tech-savvy, but are having an unexplainable glitch downloading an e-book, or maybe you’re setting up an email account for the very first time—whatever the tech scenario, the Los Angeles Public Library’s Cybernauts are here to save your day. This LFLA-supported initiative was established to address digital equity and literacy by employing, training, and placing computer aides in libraries across the city to provide hands-on computer and technical assistance and training to all patrons.

We checked in with two Cybernauts from the digital frontlines who harnessed their own tech expertise to help relaunch the program virtually in January 2021. Lana Lin has been a Cybernaut for the past three years at the Arroyo Seco Branch. She is now a Cybernaut Case Manager who is working on her masters in Library and Information Science. Nancy Herrera has been a Cybernaut at Central Library since 2018 and she’s also a graduate student at Harvard’s Extension School. This dedicated team spoke about their efforts to ensure Angelenos have access to critical services when the Library was closed and now as it reopens.

What was your work like as a Cybernaut when you first started?

Herrera: I loved the environment [at Central] because it was so huge. I worked with a diverse group of people. I would help people with their resumes, uploading documents, scanning, and printing. People would also bring in their computers and we’d help set them up. We’d help aspiring YouTubers and aspiring filmmakers edit their videos. It was always fun.

Lin: My branch was a little bit calmer [laughs]. I was at Arroyo Seco and I had my regular patrons. It was mainly small classes that I would teach and they would come in with their own topics that they wanted to learn, whether it was typing, or sending emails, or having a tutorial on an e-media app.

The in-person component was a big part of your jobs. How did things change when you worked to relaunch the services virtually?

Herrera: We had a lot of training about going virtual and about being really patient and giving our full attention to customers. I also teach at the Adult Education Center in Santa Monica, so I had a little experience teaching virtually, which is really challenging. But being able to relate to that frustration of learning online [was helpful] because I took a lot of what I learned and simplified that into training online. For example, a lot of patrons don’t know what browser tabs are, or what operating system they are using. Being able to teach those little things goes a long way. So Lana and I worked on creating a live course that taught those fundamentals.

Lin: We were involved in every part of this production process [of transitioning the program virtually]. We spent months planning and preparing. In January, we were able to onboard 21 Cybernauts who had been furloughed at the time because of the pandemic. We trained them to reacquaint them with Library policies and procedures and for the software programs they were going to use for chat and phone service, which are our two main virtual platforms. I had recently been working for the app Headspace, a job I had gotten because of my Cybernaut experience and being a graduate student, but we had transitioned to working from home too. So I was able to pull a lot of the methods I learned from working at a tech startup. A big part was using Slack as a communication platform. This allowed for instant team collaboration, which I tried to mimic for the Cybernauts. When we get chats and calls [from patrons seeking help], we’re on Slack with other Cybernauts trouble-shooting the questions in real time with each other.

Herrera: We’re better able to share knowledge, news and resources. So we’re excited to keep Slack open when we come back in-person.

Lin: We’ve really streamlined the platforms. We are able to more easily fill out reports on our patron interactions, so we can collect data about how and who we are helping. We’re able to spot trends [in tech issues] quicker and better predict the influx of questions we may be getting, so we are able to cater to the patrons better because of this data and real time collection.

It sounds like your previous experience as in-person Cybernauts really helped to make the online program stronger. What do you love most about this work?

Lin: It’s been exactly the practical experience I need to support my pursuit in librarianship. I’m gaining a lot of digital literacy training knowledge. I’m learning so much about the inequities [with the digital divide] and how we can see it more than ever with the pandemic. It’s been helping me personally with my school and my education, but as someone who is passionate about helping my community directly, it’s been very rewarding. Some of the people who have called us this year have felt very isolated and they often don’t have anyone at home to help them with their phone, or get on a website, or sign up for the internet. I just had a 90-year-old patron who was trying to get a cell phone, and I walked her through that on the phone. All of this is very rewarding, and it’s exactly why I’m hoping to work in something similar on the digital side of librarianship and getting resources to underserved communities.

Herrera: It’s really satisfying helping people—like helping them with Zoom. We also have bilingual services now, so it’s easier than ever to know who is a Spanish or English speaker. At Central, I was the only Cybernaut who spoke Spanish, and it was a little dance of everyone trying to find the one Spanish speaker. But now the line is direct to a Spanish speaker, so [the patrons] know when I pick up I’m going to speak Spanish and they’re not going to struggle. They’ve been so grateful because before they couldn’t talk about technology [in a language they don’t speak] and they felt ashamed. Teaching them about the language of technology has been so helpful to them.

Connect with a Cybernaut today lapl.org/cybernauts.

News from The Council

Council President Ela Jhaveri Rises to the Challenge



In February of 2020 when Ela Jhaveri accepted the position to become the next president of The Council, she had no idea that the world would begin to close down because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council, which has become renowned for its premiere fundraising events, would not be able to gather in person, yet supporting the Los Angeles Public Library during this challenging time remained critical.

Jhaveri credits past Council Presidents Betsy Applebaum and Kelly Anderson and the Library Foundation of Los Angeles team for guiding her along the way. “During the pandemic year, we had many new Members join The Council to support our work,” she said of the group’s growing momentum. “More than ever, the Library programs are needed because [so many] children were learning remotely and the Library was available to support them in every way.” Jhaveri also credits how The Council’s tight-knit community forged ahead through their shared love for libraries, “Our Members have been extremely supportive during this period.”

Jhaveri first became connected to The Council in 1997 when she attended a Literary Feast and immediately knew that she had found a mission she could get behind. She was really excited about supporting programs of the Los Angeles Public Library as well as the opportunity to become friends with like-minded people she wouldn’t have otherwise met. She also fondly remembers vivid conversations with authors like Viet Thanh Nguyen, Salman Rushdie, and Erwin Chemerinsky.

Over the last few months, The Council turned to Zoom to host online events. Although Jhaveri missed in-person gatherings, she saw some benefits, “We got famous international

authors who we would not have had access to like Maggie O’Farrell joined us live from Scotland,” she said. Opening access to international voices is especially important to Jhaveri, who grew up in India until she was a teenager. Her family moved to Beirut, Lebanon, and then she attended university in England. She went back to India, where she met her husband. In 1976, they moved to America and have been active in the Los Angeles community for over 40 years.

The couple owns a business in the jewelry district, so they’ve witnessed the dramatic transformation of downtown L.A. Pre-pandemic, they loved being able to go out after work and walk to plays at Mark Taper, musicals at Ahmanson, music at Disney, museums, events at the California Club, and of course all of the special Council events at Central Library. But Jhaveri understands the Los Angeles Public Library’s reach extends well beyond downtown.

“Our library system in L.A. is spread over so many different communities. What the Library has been able to do in terms of offering guidance and educational programs to all different age groups—that’s been really important for The Council to support that. We’ve seen over the years how the Library and the Foundation have brought in new programs like recently the Cybernauts, which during the pandemic has helped older adults learn how to send emails or download programs.”

Jhaveri looks forward to The Council reconnecting in-person soon to continue their advocacy work that always rises to the challenge. “The Library is always ahead of what the community needs at the moment. Whatever program is needed, our fundraising will continue to support.”



News from The Council

Behind-the-Scenes with The Council

After the stay-at-home orders hit last March, The Council had to pivot from hosting some of their legendary in-person events. But LFLA staffers have ensured that the important work of The Council to support critical Library programs continued to thrive. The return of in-person gatherings is on the horizon, but in the meantime we hope you can get to know our work better by hearing from some of the individuals behind-the-scenes of The Council of the LFLA and how much they love this big-hearted community.



Elizabeth Toms,
Director of Council Relations



“We were an Air Force family during the Vietnam War. My mom often had all four kids (at one point all under seven-years-old!) to entertain by herself and the local libraries were our destination. I have a distinct memory of the basement of a charming old library building in Merced where the children’s department was. I can’t tell you how many times I read *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. I’ve done many jobs—from working at a newspaper to Musical Theater. When my children were born, I was fortunate to be able to stay home with them and like so many of our Council Members, ran Parent Associations and was on several Boards as a volunteer—at one point, I was on five! When it came time to get back into the workforce, all those volunteer skills transferred beautifully. I was excited to assist an organization that had a real impact on our community on a large scale like The Council. While the social aspect of the group is fun—I remember a few years ago, we had Michael Feinstein and Leslie Bricusse for a December Council Event at the California Club. One of the surprise guests that Michael invited was Liza Minnelli. Liza arrived later and her driver was sent over to Library parking. I went and found them—Liza rolled down her window, smoke billowed out, and she said, ‘Oh honey, you’ve come to rescue me, climb in.’ She was so delightful and everyone enjoyed her appearance—but The Council goes way beyond this fun. [The Members are so] intellectually curious and I miss how magical it is to have the energy of an author in the room and The Council Members able to ask questions directly. I also miss being able to share in real time what their giving is doing, especially this year—it matters! [The Council Members all have] a library story. Whether it is a story from childhood or as an adult, the smell, the sounds, the imagination, and possibilities in a library is universally positive. And they want to be sure that everyone experiences that. Whether it is a special relationship with a librarian, experiencing it as a safe place, or having free access to services they cannot get elsewhere, our community understands the potential that lives in a library.”



Ally Gonzalez,
Coordinator of Council Relations



“I went to college at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. I majored in History and thus spent many hours in our college library reading and writing my thesis. After I graduated, I went on to intern for the Smithsonian at the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. My first love was museums, which led to a natural love for libraries. I love the idea that libraries and museums serve as a place for communities to gather, learn more about their shared history, and plan for the future as well. Once I moved back home to Los Angeles, I worked for the Getty Museum in the front lines of museums and events. This job enforced that I wanted to work directly with the public. My job at the Council helps marry all these loves of working in public spaces, working with the public, and assisting with our many events. My grandmother was a school librarian, so libraries and books were always a part of my childhood. I was fortunate to be surrounded by many passionate readers growing up in my family. Now, The Council is a great group to meet fellow library lovers. It really is a community of people that are eager to discuss their love of libraries and books. They are also very interested in the specific achievements of LFLA and the LAPL. Their passion is infectious and can be felt at any Council event. Our Jon Meacham event was quite memorable — our Members were so excited to hear him speak. His talk kept Members enraptured in every word. I miss getting able to see all of our fabulous donors interact with each other, LFLA staff, and the author. Each event is always such a positive atmosphere and everyone was always so happy to see each other. It is always interesting to see what parts of the book or what parts of the speech Members want to hear about further. Lastly, I miss seeing everyone’s outfits. Our Council Members are the best dressed group in Los Angeles!”

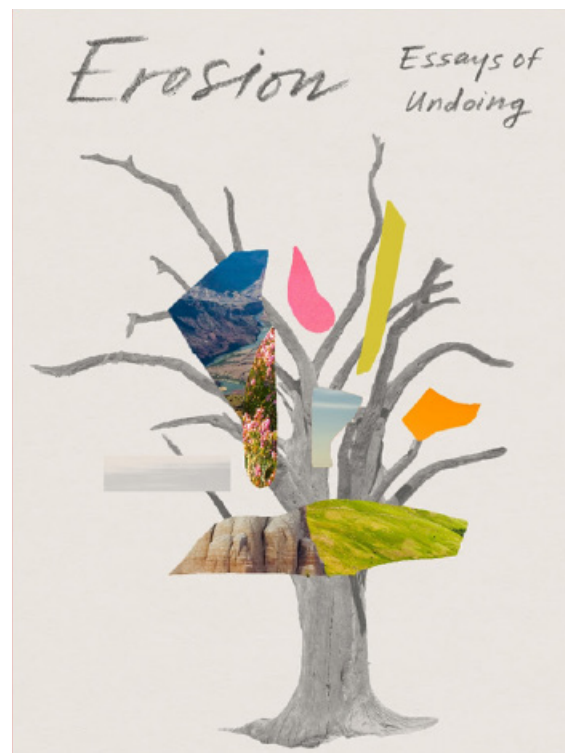
Summer 2021 Calendar

Library
Foundation
of Los Angeles

ALoud

Getting Louder.

ALoud is the Library Foundation of Los Angeles' series of bold, powerful programs that are evolving as we experiment, take risks, and try new ideas that are informed by the changing world and the audiences we serve. New programs are frequently added, and all programs are subject to change. lfla.org/aloud



THURSDAY, JULY 8 @ 5:00 PM PST
Erosion: Essays Of Undoing
Terry Tempest Williams
In Conversation with Jessica Strand

"Each of us finds our identity within the communities we call home," writes Terry Tempest Williams in *Erosion*, a galvanizing new collection of essays that navigates the emotional, geographical, and communal territories of home. Sizing up the assaults on America's public lands and the erosion of our commitment to the open spaces of democracy, Williams fiercely examines the many forms of erosion we face—of democracy, science, compassion, and trust. From the gutting of sacred lands to Native Peoples of the American Southwest to the undermining of the Endangered Species Act, Williams testifies about the harsh reality of the climate crisis and how our earth—our home—is being torn apart.



THURSDAY, JULY 29 @ 5:00 PM PST
Notes from the Bathroom Line:
Humor, Art, and Low-grade Panic from
150 of the Funniest Women in Comedy
with Amy Solomon
featuring Karen Chee and Emily V. Gordon

In this "much-needed dose of delight," Amy Solomon, a producer of the hit HBO shows *Silicon Valley* and *Barry*, shares from her new collection of humor pieces, including curated essays, satire, short stories, poetry, cartoons, and artwork from more than 150 of the biggest female comedians today. *Notes from the Bathroom Line* highlights the work of women continuing to smash the comedy glass ceiling in this long male-dominated field. Listen in as these comedians prove there are no limits to how funny, bad-ass, and revolutionary women can—and continue—to be.

A Note About In-Person Programming

As of June 15, 2021, the Los Angeles Public Library has reopened its physical doors and is offering **select in-person services at 70 libraries across the city.**

Services may include quick browsing, computer access, pick up of holds, or checking out of materials.

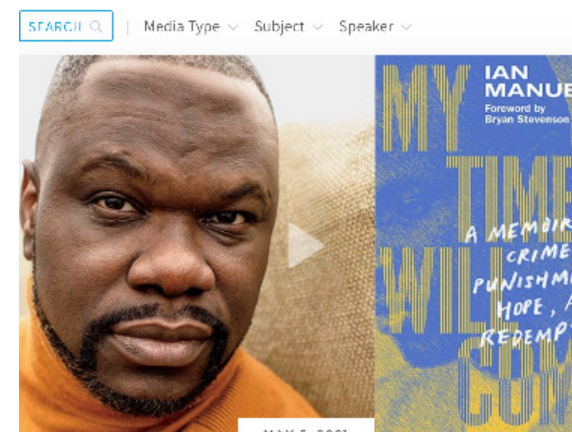
During this phase of reopening, **in-person programs and classes are not yet available.** Many programs are still available virtually.

Programs produced by the Library Foundation of Los Angeles, including ALoud, will continue to be hosted virtually, with in-person events anticipated to return in Fall 2021.

Need more ALoud?

Visit the LFLA's Media Archive to listen to podcasts and watch recordings of hundreds of past ALoud programs, old and new. lfla.org/archive

Media Archive



My Time Will Come:
A Memoir of Crime, Punishment, Hope, and
Redemption
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The Library Foundation thanks its generous sponsors

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Young Literati 12th Annual Toast

Library
Foundation
of Los Angeles

Young
Literati

The Young Literati 12th Annual Toast took place on Saturday, June 26, marking the LFLA's first in-person event in over a year. The drive-in style event was held on the roof of the Peterson Automotive Museum.

Guests lounged in their vehicles while enjoying catered boxed meals, mocktails, and performances from Host Whitney Cummings, Sterling K. Brown and Ryan Bathe, Billy Eichner, Ron Funches, Ginnifer Goodwin, Regina King, and Dolly Parton.

Funds raised from this year's event will enhance the digital offerings and infrastructure of the Library and the LFLA, leveling the playing field for children, offering support for those learning a new skill, providing enlightening cultural programming, and much more.



Shepard Fairey's Studio Number One created the original invitation art



A group of YL Members enjoy the program



Enthusiast Sponsor/LFLA Board member Amanda Fairey with Shepard Fairey and daughters Vivienne and Madeleine



Actor and comedian Ron Funches interpreted a childhood favorite



Patron Sponsors/LFLA Board member Brendon Cassidy with Brooke Rowland



Young Literati Chair Ginnifer Goodwin with Toast MC Whitney Cummings



MC Whitney Cummings

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

The Library Store

Let's Get Outside

It's summer, and the time is right to opt outdoors! The Library Store will be reopening to in-person shopping in July. The digital shop is always open, with a \$5 flat rate for shipping in the continental U.S. Proceeds from all sales support the Los Angeles Public Library, and Library Foundation Members receive discounts on all purchases.

213.228.7550

shop.lfla.org

librarystore@lfla.org

@TheLibraryStore



Compact Backpack
\$15.00



We Heart L.A. Parks
\$19.99



Cabin Scene Socks
\$12.00



Little Park Ranger Board Book Set
\$14.99



California Dreaming Playing Cards
\$15.95



Camper's Knot Tying Game
\$8.95

We're bursting with the news of our upcoming reopening on Monday, July 19!

We can't wait to see you in person, but don't worry if you've gotten used to curbside pickup; we're happy to continue offering this convenient service for our customers. Stay tuned for details!