



*Image from Barry Harrison's collection of anonymous
vintage photographs of men in rows.
Courtesy homobilia.com.
See pages 4-5 for more information.*

21
COLLECTIONS

Every Object
Has a Story



Letter from the President

On the cover of this newsletter is a photograph from Barry Harrison’s unexpected and compelling collection of vintage photographs of men pictured in rows. It will be included in the exhibition *21 Collections: Every Object Has a Story*, opening at the Central Library on September 28th (read more about the project on pages 4-5).

I am excited about this exhibition for several reasons, one of them being that the material on display can sound like a stretch for the usual museum or art exhibition visitor.

At face value, the objects – paper airplanes, bird nests, typewriters – might seem unremarkable or commonplace. It’s only upon closer inspection that the viewer begins to understand something bigger: that there is a relation between collecting and the human condition; about how objects in numbers alert our senses to see something more than the sum of its parts. When we have this experience, the pleasure is palpable. We learn something about how we hold onto memory, or how an object can contain the values of family, or even the power to inspire action.

But what I am truly most interested in are the unique stories that emerge from the act of collecting, and how these stories reveal intriguing, lesser-known moments in history. For example, how a disregarded collection of bird eggs facilitated the ban on the pesticide DDT, or how a life-sized elephant made out of walnuts contributed to the Southern California population boom.

I invite you to visit this important exhibition and look forward to hearing your take on what makes everyday objects inspiring.

Ken Brecher
President

Quick Hits

Planning Your Year-End Giving

As we enter the last quarter of 2018, it’s a great time to think about making a year-end gift to the Library Foundation! Here are five easy ways to support your Library before the end of the year:

1 Give the gift of Membership
Your contribution is an investment toward protecting equal access to information, and funding thousands of life-changing programs and services to millions of Library patrons.

2 Upgrade your Membership
An increase in giving means more benefits for you, and a significant impact to the work of the Library Foundation in supporting the Los Angeles Public Library.

3 Make a year-end donation in addition to your Membership dues
All donations made between November 1st – December 31st will be matched by a generous donor, doubling your impact!

4 Gift appreciated stock or mutual funds
Maximize your charitable contribution while achieving the most effective means of tax savings before the end of the year.

5 Make a tax-free distribution from your IRA
If you are age 70 or older, up to \$100,000 can be distributed tax-free from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to support the Library.

Planned Giving

You can support the Library anytime of the year by making a **planned gift** to the Library Foundation. Planned gifts include bequests, charitable trusts, IRAs, life insurance, and more.

By making a planned gift, you become a Member of the Bibliophiles, a dedicated group of philanthropists who demonstrate their commitment to the Los Angeles Public Library’s mission for generations to come.

To learn more about year-end giving or planned giving opportunities, visit lfla.org/membership or call 213.292.6242.

Visualizing Language: Oaxaca in LA Crosses Borders

On Sunday, August 26, Angelenos came together one last time to experience Tlacolulokos’ murals on display in Central Library’s rotunda, on view since September of 2017 and in direct conversation with the Dean Cornwell murals from the 1930s.

The temporary exhibition, organized in conjunction with the Getty for the *Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA* initiative, officially ended on August 31; however, the life of the portable mural series is far from over. The Los Angeles Public Library and Library Foundation are thrilled to announce that the murals will travel to Lille, France, as part of an ambitious, far-reaching six-month festival in spring 2019 featuring the work of contemporary Mexican artists.

Following the French exhibition, the murals will be permanently incorporated into the collection of the Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA) in Long Beach.

“Thanks to the vision and work of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles the Tlacolulokos murals *For the Price of Your Hometown, the Way of the Elders, and In Memory of the Forgotten*, will become part of the recently created collection and repository of murals at MOLAA,” said Lourdes Ramos, President and CEO, Museum of Latin American Art. “This marvelous series of murals will reside at MOLAA and become part of a collections and infrastructure expansion project at the museum. We are indebted to the Library Foundation and greatly appreciate the trust they have placed in MOLAA.”

Los Angeles Public Library News

An Entire World of Support for Families



As parents navigate the ups and downs of childrearing, the Los Angeles Public Library’s free programs and services across the city are readily available to address the ever-changing needs of families at all stages of the journey.

We Read Together is the Library’s most wide-reaching initiative that not only stimulates literacy in children as early as birth and up to age 11, but also empowers parents, caregivers, and educators in the learning process. One example of this initiative, **Read, Baby, Read!**, takes a hit-the-ground-running approach. This new collaboration between the Library and health clinics and hospitals provides materials and information on early literacy to expecting parents and offers every new baby in Los Angeles their free library card.

Another dynamic resource for the whole family includes the highly-interactive **Storytime** programs, a staple of all branch libraries. Children’s Librarian Laurie Reese at the Felipe de Neve Branch Library loves to see how the community comes together to celebrate language, songs, and illustrations as she carefully curates books to share with her patrons each week. “No one is ever too old to be read to or sung to, and it’s the core of what we do,” she says. Developing literacy is an underlying goal, but building a community also resonates for Reese. “There is nothing like hearing a room full of people break out in choral harmony,” she says. “It’s so nice to be in a room and experience joy.”

After Eagle Rock Branch Library’s Storytime each week, Children’s Librarian Caitlin Quinn uses play to further engage early literacy. She has witnessed how play activates the senses and sparks learning through activities such as toddlers using felt boards and pieces to make up stories and build fine-motor skills, or kids examining plastic bugs with magnifying glasses to develop spatial

understanding. “Through all this, parents and caregivers are there bonding with their kids and encouraging language learning by asking questions, describing what they see, and introducing new vocabulary to their little ones,” Quinn says.

Building on the success of such play-based programs and through funding from the Library Foundation’s IDEAS@LAPL grants, the Library has launched two new innovative programs. **LA Plays!** circulates literacy-building play kits that families can check out and take home to continue learning beyond the walls of the library. The West Valley Regional Branch Library recently introduced **Story Play @ LAPL**. As a no-fee alternative for families, multi-sensory play gym sets are available for infants to use while parents and caregivers hear from experts about topics like health, nutrition, and education.

“Our family uses the library on a regular basis. This summer it had great activities for the kids, like a competition on decorating cupcakes and learning how to make slime. It’s an amazing way to bring the community together and into this fantastic space. We feel very lucky to have this resource so close to home!”

—Alessandra Fraga

“The Library is committed to making sure all of the programs are interactive, participatory and meet the needs of L.A.’s diverse communities,” says Joanna Fabicon, Senior Librarian for Children’s Services. “At baby and toddler programs, you’ll hear about the five early literacy skills: talk, sing, read,

write, play. Promoting these skills not just early, but always, makes a solid foundation for community engagement.”

The longstanding **Summer at the Library** program also fosters learning for the whole family. Open to all ages of kids and teens, this summer’s slate of programs just wrapped up with over 30,000 participants. With the theme of “Reading Takes You Everywhere,” participants and their families were encouraged to explore the city—experiencing new places like Underwood Farms to pick green beans and strawberries, or going to the California African American Museum to learn about history.

Summer at the Library also offers another critical service for families during the school break: volunteers served nearly 11,800 free lunches to children and teens across 15 libraries. This program has become hugely successful in part to teen volunteers who can earn their California Food Handler Certificate and get training in proper food service protocols. As the teen volunteers gain valuable work experience, they also become role models for the younger kids.

“Our free lunch program has a large impact, for families and for the Library,” says Teri Markson, Senior Librarian for the Exploration & Creativity Department. “It’s not only about providing free meals, it also provides opportunities for library staff to engage kids, teens, and families in wonderful programs.” From STEAM programs and the Summer Author Series to opportunities for families to learn about library resources such as free eye exams, citizenship classes, language learning apps, and job search assistance, Markson, along with her colleagues, recognizes how a singular entry point into the Los Angeles Public Library system can open up an entire world of support for families.



Photos of Alessandra Fraga and Family. Credit: David Marks

21 Collections: Every Object Has a Story



Top: Olive Percival's Doll Hats, Courtesy of the Ella Strong Denison Library, Scripps College. Bottom: Shelf of scent bottles from The Institute for Art and Olfaction

At its core, the public library is an enthusiastic collector: a repository of books, a keeper of history, a holder of information, a gathering place for all. Libraries collect to advance and share knowledge, and to strengthen communities through a vast compilation of resources. For the first time in its long history of collecting, the Los Angeles Public Library, in partnership with the Library Foundation, presents a new exhibition that explores the inherent power of collections.

21 Collections: Every Object Has a Story will run from September 28 through January 27 at the Central Library's Getty Gallery, showcasing a diverse range of historic, contemporary, and newly commissioned original collections. By bringing together vastly eclectic collections into a singular space and shining a light on the varying approaches and aesthetics of amassing objects, the exhibition reconsiders the act—and art—of collecting. “We began by asking what unique and compelling stories might be revealed through a collection that wouldn’t be possible if someone hadn’t brought it together. In the context of related things, or through a repetition of like elements, objects begin to give form to narratives, revealing sometimes surprising connections,” says *21 Collections* Curator Todd Lerew. “The best collections are the ones that help us understand something about ourselves and our world.”

Audiences will have the chance to take in collections of history, sociology, culture, and personal ephemera that represent untraditional perspectives on what warrants our attention. What might looking at a series of anonymous vintage photographs of men standing in rows say about the emotional undercurrent of 21st century masculinity? What does an obsession with paper airplanes comprised from scraps of political flyers, beer bottle labels, and children’s homework say about the commonalities of strangers?

“The wonderfully diverse, eclectic group of stories presented in this exhibition—and the collectors responsible for them—add up to an inspiring and surprising portrait of the value of collecting,” says City Librarian John F. Szabo. “Preserving the collections that tell the stories of our communities is at the core of the mission of the public library, where we have the unique responsibility of making those stories accessible to absolutely everyone.”

Listed below are a few highlights from *21 Collections*. Visit lfla.org/21collections to learn more about this upcoming exhibition and related public programming across the city.

21 Collections: Every Object Has a Story is generously supported by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Debra and Norris Bishton, the California Walnut Board, Robert C. Dawson, Darren Jackson & Tatiana Small, Judith Krantz, Richard Nordin, and David & Varda Schriger



Prison Landscapes

Flipping through a family photo album, artist Alyse Emdur discovered a photo of herself at age five in front of a tropical backdrop. Remembering the photo was from a trip to visit her brother in prison, she became interested in these idyllic scenes that inmates often posed in front of depicting “fantasy” worlds of freedom. She started writing to inmates across the country requesting information about these backdrops, their own photos, and stories from their incarcerated lives. This community-generated project grew into a collection of over 100 powerful images offering a glimpse of life from inside prison.



Bullfighting Collection

One of the Los Angeles Public Library’s most unique research holdings, the Biblioteca Taurina or Bullfighting Collection, was compiled by LAUSD Spanish teacher George B. Smith in his Westlake apartment, and is the largest of its kind in North America. Although bullfighting is now a controversial (and illegal) activity, it was once common at Spanish religious festivals in Los Angeles, and the Portuguese (bloodless) version actually still takes place throughout the region to this day.

A Closer Look: Artist Karen Collins

Madam C. J. Walker, an African American entrepreneur and activist and the first female self-made millionaire in the United States. Elmina Castle, the slave trading post in Ghana that marked the beginning of the Middle Passage. Olympic gold medalist and “fastest woman of all time” Florence Griffith Joyner. Artist Karen Collins scanned her living room for these miniature scenes of rarely told history that she will be sharing in the *21 Collections* exhibition at Central Library this fall.



Celebration, by Karen Collins

As a hobby, Collins began making dollhouses when she was 40, and the miniature scale immediately captured her imagination. She was a preschool teacher living in Compton, but in 1991 her eldest son Eddie got involved in gang activity. Just weeks before his high school graduation he was sentenced to 167 years in prison for a third strike conviction for attempted murder. “When life threw me a curve I started thinking: what didn’t I do to help my son stay out of prison?” says Collins. She decided she needed to tell the world more about Eddie’s history.

She devoted her life to recreating tiny worlds of defining, but rarely seen moments of black history. These intricately crafted stories, collected in the form of shadow-box dioramas, grew into what she imagined as the African American Museum of

Miniatures. “In making them it was a lot of pain,” says Collins. “I felt the pain of the dioramas that I was creating, and that was our life—African American life now and then.”

Although it was intensely emotional, Collins found it comforting when she began sharing these boxes with the public. Along with her husband, Eddie Lewis, the pair would take the collection of boxes to local museums, libraries, and schools. She soon felt the power of her work through the public’s overwhelming reactions. “When I showed at the library, adults would come and then go back and get their grandkids, and they’d bring children from the community to come and see it.” Later as she made the school circuit her audience grew even wider. “We’d set up in one room and I’d have

15 kids act as docents for the day, and then four or five hundred kids would come through there,” she recalls, “It was the best.”

This educational outreach has been one of the most rewarding aspects of her work. “Children have ancestors who have sacrificed a lot for them. They need to know that—that’s where their stress comes from,” she says. Collins is very excited to invite all of Los Angeles—and their children—to see her work in the *21 Collections* exhibition. She appreciates how the platform of Central Library will engage new audiences with these important stories—including three new dioramas which the Library Foundation commissioned on Black Lives Matter, the homelessness crisis in L.A., and a profile of Compton rapper Kendrick Lamar.

Collins, now 67, hopes to one day find a permanent home for her collection. It is growing more difficult for her and her husband to travel, but she remains committed to instilling hope in the community as we navigate the difficult terrain of our past and present. “People would cry when they came and saw some of the boxes. All I could do was just hug them and say, look, we made it out of that. We’re not there any more,” she says. “It’s like a mourning for what happened. I think that’s cathartic and that’s good. Every time I tell my story it’s cathartic.”

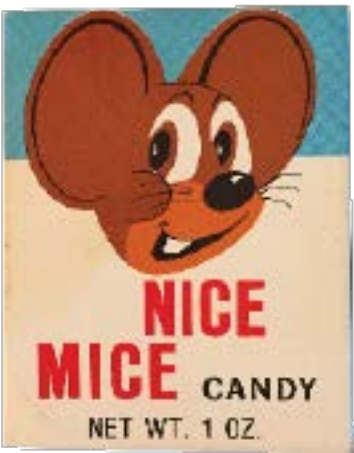


Bird Eggs and Nests

The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (WVZ) is home to the world’s largest collection of bird eggs and nests. In the mid-20th Century, mainstream institutions like the LA County Natural History Museum were deaccessioning their egg collections, thinking they had been comprehensively studied and documented. When the DDT scare hit in the 1960s, the WVZ was the only institution with enough specimens gathered prior to the pesticide’s invention to prove it was affecting the thickness of the eggshells and threatening key species. Evidence from their collection was used in the court case that ultimately saw DDT banned by the EPA.

The Candy Wrapper Museum

Growing up in Southern California in the 1960s, Darlene Lacey wanted to start a collection, and candy was all that she could afford. She started with “Nice Mice,” because she liked the design and guessed it might not be around forever. Her collection, now dubbed the Candy Wrapper Museum, has since grown into one of the most significant collections of its kind, providing a window into cultural trends and fads, the history of graphic design and advertising, as well as a powerful nostalgia trip for all but the very young.



A Pop-Up Magazine Partnership



On a recent Saturday evening in downtown Los Angeles, a crowd of people snaked around the block at the intersection of Broadway and Olympic. They were lining up to enter the Theatre at Ace Hotel, the historic former movie palace that has hosted everyone from Charlie Chaplin to Fran Lebowitz. This night, hosted by Pop-Up Magazine, would offer something entirely different.

Born out of an idea to bring multiple art forms together to produce a live magazine, Pop-Up Magazine is a unique dive into storytelling from a multi-media perspective.

“Some friends and I came together and came up with this idea of a live magazine, where writers, radio producers, photographers, filmmakers and other artists could come together and perform new stories in all different kinds of media mixed together,” says Douglas McGray, Co-Founder and Editor in Chief. “Now these shows tour the country—and they’re getting ever more theatrical, with original live scores by our house band, Magik*Magik Orchestra, and collaborations between nonfiction storytellers and dancers, chefs, shadow theater artists, animators, and more.”

The visual and aural experience for the audience ranges from videos of drag queen bingo in Northern California to a diva singing an excerpt from Maria Callas’ rendition of *Carmen*. This on-stage magazine explores diverse worlds and perspectives for its audiences and has similar tones to the Library Foundation’s programming, in particular the ALOUD series, which sparked a growing collaboration.

“We’re big fans!” noted McGray. “And I think we share a similar mission. ALOUD looks to bring people together around stories and ideas, and so do we.” Recently, the Library Foundation has been a featured media sponsor of Pop-Up Magazine in Los Angeles. This collaboration has given the two cultural programs the ability to not only work together, but also to champion one another.

“Partnering with Pop-Up Magazine allows us to engage with new audiences and explore new areas of L.A.’s cultural landscape as we broaden the breadth and identity of ALOUD,” said Ken Brecher, President of the Library Foundation.

This September, Pop-Up Magazine will embark on its Fall Issue tour which includes dates in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, D.C., Portland, Chicago, and Toronto. There will also be a host of amazing creators from across the country including two L.A.-based performers set to travel with the show — past ALOUD interlocuter Ann Friedman, co-host of the podcast *Call Your Girlfriend*, and Hrishikesh Hirway, host of the *Song Exploder* podcast.

McGray also describes this tour as a multi-sensory experience. “Our stories in this show will engage four different senses. Which ones, and how? You’ll just have to come see, and hear, and...”

Another project on the horizon for this team is *Pop-Up Zine*, which McGray describes as “a DIY opportunity that will invite people to create their own, more intimate multimedia storytelling events in their own communities.” With so many facets of this unique experience, be sure to check



out Pop-Up Magazine on September 29 for their L.A. show. All that’s required is an open mind and a sense of enthusiasm.

For more information on Pop-Up Magazine or to find out about tour dates, please visit popupmagazine.com.

ALoud Fall Preview: Susan Orlean



Credit: Noah Fecks

“The library is a gathering pool of narratives and of the people who come to find them. It is where we can glimpse immortality; in the library, we can live forever,” writes Susan Orlean in her newest work, *The Library Book*. The *New Yorker* staff writer and author of seven books, including *Rin Tin Tin* and *The Orchid Thief*, dives into the ashes of the catastrophic 1986 fire that burned down Los Angeles’ beloved Central Library, destroyed or damaged more than one million books, and shook our city to its core. Likely arson, but never fully solved, Orlean reopens the mysterious case to investigate if someone purposefully set fire to the Library. Through meticulous research, Orlean’s story grows into a rich cultural history of Central Library—and libraries across the world. We spoke with Orlean before she brings this story of persistence home to the Central Library for a special conversation and launch of her book at ALOUD on October 16.

Your own personal story of trips to the Shaker Heights Public Library in Ohio with your mother is one of the entrances into *The Library Book*. Were these childhood memories something that you always wanted to write about, and how did this influence the overall story of your book?

Orlean: Those memories were lurking, but I hadn’t realized how powerful they were and how much I wanted to describe them until I visited the Studio City Branch Library with my son. In that moment, I was so overwhelmed by memories of visiting the library with my mother that I felt compelled to write about it. The motif of those visits colored the entire book. The transmission of stories—passing them from one person to the next,

and making sure they are preserved—is at the heart of what a library does, and, as I realized, it’s at the heart of the relationship between parent and child.

You really immersed yourself into the history of Los Angeles and its library system in order to investigate the mystery of the fire. As an “outsider” journalist, how were you able to gain access into this story and what were some of the biggest discoveries or surprises along the way?

Orlean: I approached the story as an explorer, a student, eager to learn everything I could. I spent many, many days just roaming around the Library, taking it in, and many more days in each department, sitting with some of the staff and trying to learn what they do and how they do it.



Central Library fire, Los Angeles Public Library Photo Collection

“I had trouble imagining how someone could be his or her own worst enemy, walking straight into self-incrimination. The astonishing range of human behavior is always the most surprising part of any story.”

— Susan Orlean

Then I dug through a score of boxes of archival material about the Library’s history; those were an incredible resource, and made me feel like I was able to piece together the story of how the place had developed...What surprised me the most was the story of Harry Peak [the main suspect] and his fumbling, contradictory, maddening inconsistency. I had trouble imagining how someone could be his or her own worst enemy, walking straight into self-incrimination. The astonishing range of human behavior is always the most surprising part of any story.

The book includes such an interesting cast of characters—including Mary Foy, an 18-year-old woman who was named as the head of the Los Angeles Public Library in the male-dominated era of the late 1800’s. How do you think having such progressive leadership early on changed the fate of our Library?

Orlean: LAPL has always been among the most progressive, public-minded libraries in the country. That emerged from its early leadership as well as its structure as a city department. The Los Angeles City Librarians have been exceptionally strong, independent individuals—you couldn’t get stronger and more independent than, say, Mary Jones, who ran the Library at the turn of the century and led the way to modernize the place, or Charles Lummis, the explorer/scholar/writer/historian/eccentric who took over in 1905 and left an indelible mark (including using cattle brands on books to discourage petty theft)! And unlike some older libraries that were dominated by their early, wealthy, conservative founders, the library in Los Angeles had egalitarian roots, and that spirit has continued to this day.

The book turns from the past to consider the modern era of libraries. Since writing this book, what has changed about your perspective of the vital role that libraries have in our society today?

Orlean: I came to see libraries as much more than the repositories of printed material. In this era, they are centers of knowledge and information—a broader definition that includes the various means of sharing information (digital, streaming, as well as physical manuscripts), but also the sharing of information one-to-one, such as literacy programming and voter registration. Playgrounds and parks are the community spaces for our physical needs; libraries are the community spaces for our intellectual needs. Libraries will continue to adapt to provide what those needs are and the forms they take, and that’s what will keep libraries relevant and essential, and why they will endure.

TUES, OCT 16, 7:30 PM

The Library Book

Susan Orlean

In conversation with author Attica Locke

Reservations: lfa.org/aloud

The Library Foundation Calendar Fall 2018



ALOUD is the Library Foundation of Los Angeles’ celebrated literary series of conversations, readings and performances at the downtown Central Library. For more information, to make reservations, and purchase tickets, visit lfla.org/aloud

MON, SEPT 17, 7:30 PM
The Browns of California: The Family Dynasty that Transformed a State and Shaped a Nation
Miriam Pawel and Kathleen Brown
In conversation with author and professor Natalia Molina

A Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist sits down with a member of the Brown family for an inside look at a family dynasty and its indelible mark on California history and politics



THURS, SEPT 20, 7:30 PM
There There: A Novel
Tommy Orange
In conversation with author Rigoberto González

A fresh, urgent, and extraordinary portrait of urban Native Americans in Oakland, California living both inside and outside of the historical narrative



SUN, SEPT 23, 5:00 PM
THE ARATANI THEATRE
An Evening with Karl Ove Knausgaard
My Struggle: Book Six
In conversation with Tom Lutz, Editor-in-Chief, Los Angeles Review of Books

A rare West Coast appearance from the internationally celebrated Norwegian author to share from the final installment of his monumental autobiographical series

Co-presented with The Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Center for the Art of Translation, and the Los Angeles Review of Books

WEDS, OCT 10, 7:30 PM
History of Violence: A Novel
Édouard Louis
In conversation with poet Steven Reigns

The international bestselling French author confronts the shocking story of his own sexual assault and the complications of searching for justice in a political system that marginalizes its citizens

TUES, OCT 16, 7:30 PM
The Library Book
Susan Orlean
In conversation with author Attica Locke

Bringing home the inspiring story of how Central Library rose from the ashes after the catastrophic fire of 1986, the acclaimed author pays tribute to all libraries



SATURDAY, OCT 20, 7:30 PM
SABAN MEDIA CENTER AT THE TELEVISION ACADEMY | WOLF THEATRE
She Wants It: Desire, Power, and Toppling the Patriarchy
Jill Soloway
In conversation

The Emmy and Golden Globe Award-winning creator of *Transparent* and *I Love Dick* takes us behind-the-scenes of challenging Hollywood’s status quo to give rise to a new cultural consciousness



THURS, OCT 25, 7:30 PM
The Lies That Bind: Rethinking Identity
Kwame Anthony Appiah and Njideka Akunyili Crosby
In conversation with Erin Christovale, Assistant Curator, Hammer Museum

The *New York Times* Ethicist columnist and a MacArthur-winning visual artist consider how our collective identities shape—and can bring together—our divisive world

THURS, NOV 1, 7:30 PM
Of Love & War
Lynsey Addario
In conversation

The Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist and *New York Times* bestselling author illuminates a profound sense of humanity in conflicts across the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa

THURS, NOV 8, 7:30 PM
Your Duck Is My Duck: Stories
Deborah Eisenberg
In conversation with writer Laurie Winer

In her first collection in over 12 years, one of the great American masters of short fiction hilariously confronts our most disturbing truths as citizens on a violent and beautiful planet



TUES, NOV 13, 7:30 PM
Stories From a Life Lived Along the Border
Reyna Grande, Jean Guerrero, Octavio Solis
A reading and conversation

In a unique evening of nonfiction storytelling about life at the border, three fierce artists share from their work that breaks down the walls of the immigrant experience



SUN, OCT 21, 11:00 AM
PALMS-RANCHO PARK BRANCH LIBRARY
Young Literati Family Day

Featuring a special storytime, snacks, crafts, and the chance for our Youngest Literati to make as much noise as they want in the library. Open to YL Members and their guests. Contact rebeccamiller@lfla.org to RSVP

Membership Events
Members of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles gain exclusive access to Members-only events and programs throughout the year. For more information visit lfla.org/join or call **213.292.6242**.

SAT, SEPT 15, 10:00 AM
PALMS-RANCHO PARK BRANCH LIBRARY
Writers Seminar
Lynell George

Reporter/writer George will help attendees develop interview skills that elicit thoughtful, expansive responses. Open to Library Foundation Members and their guests

SUN, SEPT 30, 11:00 AM
CENTRAL LIBRARY
Member Reception, 21 Collections: Every Object Has a Story

Library Foundation Members are invited to an exclusive reception to celebrate this exciting new exhibition

TUES, OCT 16, 6:00 PM
CENTRAL LIBRARY
Leadership Circle Reception

Library Foundation Leadership Circle Members are invited to attend a reception prior to the ALOUD program with Susan Orlean

SAT, OCT 27, 10:00 AM
VENICE ABBOT-KINNEY MEMORIAL BRANCH LIBRARY
Writers Seminar
Irene Borger

Author, teacher and journalist Borger will lead an interactive, generative workshop for patrons of all skill levels. Open to Library Foundation Members and their guests



MON, OCT 29, 7:30 PM
Lost & Found at the Movies: The Art of the Documentary Portrait
Morgan Neville
In conversation with John Nein, Senior Programmer, Sundance Film Festival

Academy Award-winner Morgan Neville (*20 Feet From Stardom*, *Won’t You Be My Neighbor*, *Shotgun Freeway*) explores the art of biographical documentaries and his lifelong fascination with Los Angeles culture



Other programs at the Los Angeles Public Library

LA Made is a cultural series offered by the Los Angeles Public Library featuring free music, dance, theater, and conversations with local entertainers at libraries throughout the City. Listed below are just a few events offered this season.

**The Library Foundation does not produce or manage these events. For more information visit lapl.org/lamade.*

SAT, SEPT 22, 1:00 PM
WEST VALLEY REGIONAL BRANCH LIBRARY
Frida Kahlo - Tree of Hope
An interactive lecture delving into the life of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, through music, images, and tableaux vivants

SUN, SEPT 30, 2:00 PM
CENTRAL LIBRARY
Graffiti Artist Panel with Man One
Guests will discuss how contemporary L.A. graffiti artists have gone from creating temporary works of street art to permanent and important “marks” on society

SUN, OCT 6, 2:00 PM
CHATSWORTH BRANCH LIBRARY
Culinary Historians - Imbibing LA

From the wine-loving Spaniards who first settled Los Angeles to the cocktail quaffers of the jet age, Los Angeles tastes have shifted when it comes to enjoying alcoholic beverages. This talk covers the period from 1778 to 1933 that begins with pious monks and ends with law-dodging partiers who were anything but reverent

SAT, OCT 13, 2:00 PM
GRANADA HILLS BRANCH LIBRARY
Wreath-Making Workshop
Participants will use seasonal florals and foliage to create a beautiful, lasting wreath

SUN, OCT 21, 2:00 PM
CENTRAL LIBRARY
It’s Just My Life - Storytelling by Women
A collection of true, personally written and shared stories, chronicling profound and poignant moments that this group of women has faced in their lives

SUN, NOV 4, 2:00 PM
CENTRAL LIBRARY
Urban Voices Project/ Street Symphony Concert
Composed of artists and performers from the Skid Row neighborhood in Downtown Los Angeles, Urban Voices Project brings music, health, well-being, and community to one of the largest homeless neighborhoods in the United States
Collaboration with Street Symphony

ALOUD thanks its generous sponsors



Jeffrey and Cecilia Glassman
Sharon Oxborough
Donna and Martin J. Wolff
And individual Library Foundation donors



Additional support provided by

Programs are subject to change. Programs are free unless otherwise indicated on the web site. It is our policy to overbook for free programs, so reservations are recommended.

Unless otherwise indicated, programs take place at:
Richard J. Riordan Central Library
Mark Taper Auditorium
630 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles, CA 90071

Not printed at City expense

2018 Literary Awards

Literary Awards Celebrate a Commitment to Libraries and Literature



Every other year, the Library Foundation brings together a community of supporters to celebrate the legacy of the Los Angeles Public Library. On September 15, this year’s Literary Awards Celebration will commemorate the Library Foundation’s 26th anniversary and pay tribute to two special awardees.

Recognizing an outstanding contribution to literature, the Los Angeles Public Library Literary Award will be presented to award-winning author George Saunders. The author of nine books, including the *New York Times* bestsellers *Congratulations, by the way*, *Tenth of December*, and his most recent work, the critically-acclaimed novel *Lincoln in the Bardo*, Saunders joins the ranks of past Literary Award recipients Ann Patchett, Salman Rushdie, and Walter Mosley, among other notable writers.

Philanthropist Betsy Applebaum will receive the Foundation’s Light of Learning Award. A longtime champion of the Library Foundation through her dedication as Board Member, President of The Council of the Library Foundation, Literary Feasts Chair, and many other roles, Applebaum will be honored for her devoted advocacy for the Los Angeles Public Library. Recent Light of Learning recipients include Joan Hotchkis and Judith Krantz. Proceeds from the Literary Awards Celebration will support the Los Angeles Public Library in providing reading enrichment and literacy programs, as well as educational and cultural activities for all ages.

Before sharing the stage to receive their awards, Applebaum engaged Saunders in an inspiring dialogue about the great democracy of libraries.



Applebaum: I began my career as an educator overseeing a special education program for the Beverly Hills Unified School District. Working with students and witnessing firsthand how reading opens up new worlds for kids has had such an enormous impact on my work both professionally and with the Library Foundation. You’ve taught for many years—what has teaching taught you about the importance of books in your students’ lives?

Saunders: I guess the main thing is simply the notion that a human being is not fixed in her relation to the world and that reading is something we have available to us that can make our relation to the world more generous and vast. I’ve seen people (and I’d include myself in this group) who started out limited by their “natural” personality and/or circumstances who, exposed to the truth and to the larger world through reading, have literally become bigger people—more curious and fearless, better-informed, more open to other people and the bigger world. We sometimes think of reading as this kind of very nice, recreational thing to do, but I see it as a way of expanding one’s personhood far beyond what we can do through “mere” experience—since we only have so much time to experience other realities directly, reading can serve as a sort of neurological prosthetic, through which we (almost) become other people.

Applebaum: One of my favorite things about working with The Council of the Library Foundation is creating a community around books and curating events where our members can engage with authors. For the

Literary Feasts—our largest fundraiser for the Los Angeles Public Library—we bring together a diverse group of authors from varied genres so that there is something to pique every literary interest. As a beloved writer, you have a loyal following of readers—how has this community impacted you?

Saunders: When you get to know your readers, it has the effect of making you a more courageous writer, I think. Maybe the natural stance for a writer is to be a little afraid of all of these unknown, probably highly critical people—but in fact, I’ve found my readers to be open, generous, hungry for truth, and very willing to follow me into whatever issue my books are raising. We’re in it together. So then, when I return to the page, I feel emboldened to take bigger chances. In other words, having met them, I feel I owe them my very best and that they, while reading, will give their very best to me.

Applebaum: Following up on the idea of community, the Los Angeles Public Library is the cornerstone of our city—it’s truly the only civic institution that offers free services and programs to any and all people. What do you think is the most important role that public libraries play in communities today? And looking ahead, what do you hope for the future of libraries?

Saunders: We are finding out, at this moment in our history, how fragile a commodity truth is. This has to do, I think, with the pace and intensity of the digital revolution. Different people are getting different “truths” shot at them with unprecedented velocity, laced with hidden agendas, and thoroughly monetized. Which is, when you think about it, the very opposite of a library, which is full of vetted factuality (and vetted oppositional factuality), available to all, at no cost, and where the only agenda is that, in a democracy, every person, regardless of income or social station, should have equal access to the accumulated product of human thought, filtered only by that person’s interest and energy. So I predict that the library will become increasingly important in the years ahead—but it’s vital that those of us who believe in the mission fight for it with radical zeal.

For more information about this event, please contact Jennifer West at 213.292.6249 or jenniferwest@lfla.org.

Live From The Library

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

[ALOUD]

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The Council

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Membership

Highlights from ALOUD

Highlights from The Council

Highlights from Member events



Shannon Lee, daughter of Bruce Lee, stands with W. Kamau Bell before a program about her father's influence on Asian and African American culture



Author Rachel Kushner, writer Dana Goodyear, and new Council President Kelly Anderson



Lost & Found at the Movies series curator John Nein with guests Mark Duplass and Jay Duplass



Roxane Gay and Terese Mailhot discuss Mailhot's new book, *Heartberries*



Council Members Helen Pashgian, Nancy Harahan, Andrea Van de Kamp, and Sharon Rising with author Patt Morrison



LFLA Member Natalie Park and Aimee Cueto enjoy the *Lost & Found* program with the Duplass brothers



Zamaswazi Dlamini-Mandela, granddaughter of Nelson Mandela, together with poet Ashaki Jackson after a reading honoring Mandela



Council Members Judy Laskow, Amy Higgins, Janey Sweet, and Nancy Koven



Camille Rubin, Alice Carroll Johnson, and Mark Duplass

Library
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630 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, California 90071

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.

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