

# Library Foundation of Los Angeles

## Winter 2018-19 News and Calendar







More than two decades ago, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles created a series of public programs that, from the start, stood out as unique in downtown LA. They were offered for free, and they tackled the big questions and pressing ideas of the day.

These programs were eventually distilled into one brand: ALOUD at Central Library. In the ensuing years, the model created by ALOUD has been replicated with equal success by others, so that today the Library’s program is one of many similar offerings from peer organizations.

To those of you who have been members of ALOUD’s loyal audience, I want to acknowledge your support and express my gratitude. I’m excited to tell you that after 16 years, ALOUD is changing. Over the next year you will see our programs evolve in ways that are not only exciting, but also necessary. Our goal is to make our public programs available and appealing to all of Los Angeles. We will experiment with compelling themes, new locations, immersive experiences, guest curators, and strong partnerships.

As we move forward with an expanded vision for ALOUD, I can assure you that core programming at the Central Library will continue. And to those of you who haven’t had the pleasure of attending ALOUD events, we have great news: we’re working hard to make ALOUD even more accessible and inclusive of the interests of all the city library’s users, supporters and patrons.

Learn more about Jessica Strand, our new Director of Public Programs, and her philosophy for programming in support of public libraries. I invite you to turn to the Q&A with her on page 7.

As I have mentioned in previous letters, the Library Foundation’s dream is to change Los Angeles — and the world — through the power of libraries. I very much hope that you will, in a year’s time, feel that we are advancing these goals through public programming that builds upon a great legacy and is embracing the crucial issues of our time.

Ken Brecher  
President

# Quick Hits

## Year-End Gifts Keep on Giving

As we wind down 2018, now is the perfect time to think about making a year-end gift to the Library Foundation, which will support the millions of Angelenos who depend on the Los Angeles Public Library.

### Make your gift go twice as far!

Every dollar you donate will be **doubled** for an even greater impact on the vital services offered at libraries across the city.



**ONLINE** visit [lfla.org/support](http://lfla.org/support) to donate online 24/7.



**TEXT** DonateLFLA to 41444 for an easy and secure way to give from your phone.



**MAIL** gifts to: Library Foundation of Los Angeles 630 W. 5th Street Los Angeles, CA 90071



**CALL** 213.292.6242 to give your gift over the phone.

### Other Ways to Give:

#### Upgrade your Membership

In addition to receiving more Member benefits, you’ll make a greater impact on the Library Foundation’s work to support the Los Angeles Public Library.

#### Give the gift of Membership

A perfect gift for anyone who shares in your belief that the Los Angeles Public Library has the power to transform lives.

#### 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.

#### 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.

To learn more about year-end giving opportunities, visit [lfla.org/support](http://lfla.org/support) or call 213.292.6242.  
*Tax ID number 95-4368250*

# Los Angeles Public Library News

## Transforming the Future for Lifelong Learners

California’s senior population is growing faster than any other age group. The Los Angeles Times recently reported: “Between now and 2026, the number of Californians 65 and older is expected to climb by 2.1 million.” And projecting the state’s population by 2060, the 65 and older demographic will be the only age bracket to grow in scale. As California prepares for how this radical transformation will impact the state, the Los Angeles Public Library is already providing crucial support to older adults.

“Our Libraries are places where people go to improve their lives, at every stage of their life,” says City Librarian John F. Szabo. “We are always looking for meaningful and innovative ways to serve Angelenos, including older adults. I’m proud that we provide seniors a level of social, cultural, and educational services unmatched by any other public institution in Los Angeles.”



*A Cybernaut helps a senior patron with a digital tablet*

The Engagement and Outreach Department is one area of the Library that is serving the information needs of seniors—many of whom are homebound. “By meeting older adults where they are at, we help address some of the mobility issues older adults face,” says Principal Librarian Jené D. Brown. **Bilingual Outreach Librarians** make regular visits to senior centers across the community to deliver requested library materials and free books, host workshops, and inform seniors about relevant library programs and services such as the New Americans initiative, computer classes, book clubs, health classes, and volunteer opportunities. For seniors who can visit their local libraries, there are many specialized activities. Alicia Reyes, the

East Valley Area Bilingual Librarian, provides **Memory Training Classes** and **Digital Drop-ins** where participants can bring their smartphones or smart devices and learn to download and set-up various library apps. Fostering digital literacy skills is especially critical for older adults confronting the digital divide—this is a significant focus of many Adult Literacy programs held throughout all branches. “From learning how to type, search the Internet, use social media or other applications, teaching digital literacy skills is integrated into a lot of what adults need to get and keep jobs and to be able to perform life skills from banking to communicating with family members,” says Managing Librarian Kelly Tyler.

**“If it wasn’t for the Library having this program, I don’t know how I would have done it. And now, there is no stopping me.”**

**—Willie Howard, Career Online High School graduate**

The Library also addresses digital literacy and equity for older adults through its **Cybernauts** program. Last year, Cybernauts provided computer troubleshooting and other technical assistance at 37 library branches throughout Los Angeles to more than 61,000 patrons who were predominately older adults. The Cybernauts program, which employs many young adults as tutors, also creates a path for inter-generational exchanges.

“We’ve learned a lot about the wonderful benefits of inter-generational learning and how fostering a shared empathy in the younger generation can help break down age barriers in our society,” says Young Adult Librarian Elisabeth Calla, who is overseeing a new inter-generational project that’s part of **Teens Leading Change**. This future-facing program encourages young people across the city to address a community challenge and participate in democracy in action. Calla is working with teens at the Westwood Branch Library to make their branch more accessible to older adults who are physically unable to visit the Library. Also helping to confront the issue of social isolation among seniors, the teens have visited Belmont Village Assisted Living and gather music playlists, movie requests, and book wish lists from older adults and then teach them how to use the Library’s e-media.



*Teens from the Westwood Branch Library TLC project visit Belmont Village Assisted Living; COHS graduate Willie Howard on graduation day, posing with City Librarian John F. Szabo and Mayor Eric Garcetti*

Another inspiring example of how seniors are improving their lives through the Library’s digital resources is Willie Howard. At the age of 64, Howard graduated from the Los Angeles Public Library’s **Career Online High School** program last March. As a regular visitor to the Library seeking shelter during the days when he was homeless, Howard became aware of the vast educational resources available to him there. He received in-person tutoring and used the Library’s computers while working towards his high school diploma online. “If it wasn’t for the Library having this program, I don’t know how I would have done it. And now, there is no stopping me,” said Howard in a recent interview with the Adult Services department. “I walk these hallways like they are my high school. This is my high school. This is where I graduated from. Class of 2018, Central Library. Mr. Howard.” This proud graduate plans to enroll at Trade Tech Community College and take some tailoring and photography courses, proving it’s never too late to learn something new.

**Visit [lapl.org](http://lapl.org) to learn more about these programs.**



# Revive Your Winter Break

Maybe you prefer to enjoy your winter break at home cozying up with a good book, or maybe you want to get out and explore the city—either way the Los Angeles Public Library has you covered this season.

### Winter Reading Challenge

**Dec 14, 2018 - Jan 14, 2019**  
Over the holidays, grab the whole family and play the Los Angeles Public Library’s Lotto. Inspire your winter reading by completing five activities from an interactive game board and win a prize—including a Grand Prize drawing for a \$50 Amazon gift card.  
**Pick up a game board at your local library, or log your activities online at [lapl.org/winter](http://lapl.org/winter).**

### E-Media Resources

Images courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library’s photo collection, accessible at [tessa.lapl.org](http://tessa.lapl.org)

### Explore L.A. with *Discover & Go*

Just in time for the holidays, the Los Angeles Public Library is thrilled to launch a new service for Angelenos to have access to a nationally recognized museum pass program that provides library cardholders with free and discounted tickets to local museums and cultural institutions. Southern Californian destinations include: the Autry Museum of the American West, the Craft & Folk Art Museum, Kidspace Children’s Museum, The La Brea Tar Pits and Museum, Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the Skirball Cultural Center, and many more!  
**Visit [lapl.org/explorela](http://lapl.org/explorela) and register online with your LAPL card credentials.**

- Kick off your New Year with a host of new and old favorite resources for free access to digital books, music, movies, courses, and more, including:
- Libby** — a new app for enjoying e-books and audiobooks from the Library’s collection
  - Overdrive** — download books, comics, magazines, and more to your Kindle or other devices
  - Tessa** — instant access to over 120,00 rare and historical photographs, maps, posters, bookplates, and other Library collections
  - Hoopla** — instantly borrow digital movies, music, e-books, and more
  - NY Times Digital**—offers access to The New York Times digital site
  - LA in Focus Videos** — a series of lectures spotlighting images from the Library’s collection and unique stories of L.A. history
  - Travel e-book Collection**—over 300 premier travel reference e-books that include DK Eyewitness Travel Guides and Rough Guides to Countries and Cities
- To learn more visit [lapl.org/collections-resources](http://lapl.org/collections-resources).**

# The Community Collects Around 21 Collections

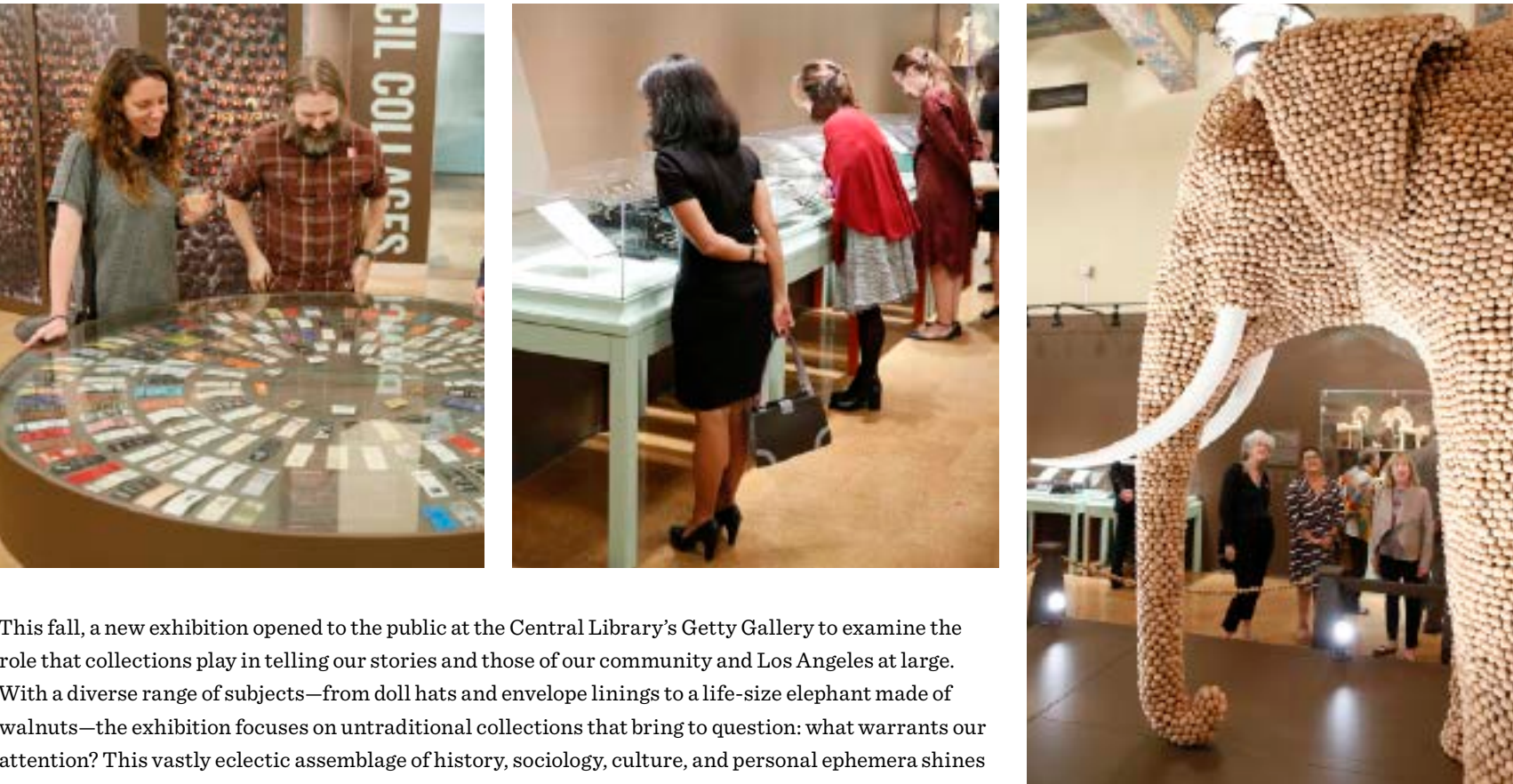


Photo Credits: Ryan Miller/Capture Imaging

This fall, a new exhibition opened to the public at the Central Library’s Getty Gallery to examine the role that collections play in telling our stories and those of our community and Los Angeles at large. With a diverse range of subjects—from doll hats and envelope linings to a life-size elephant made of walnuts—the exhibition focuses on untraditional collections that bring to question: what warrants our attention? This vastly eclectic assemblage of history, sociology, culture, and personal ephemera shines a light on the inherent power of amassing objects.  
**Visit [lfla.org/21collections](http://lfla.org/21collections) to learn more about the exhibition and programs.**

The

Mobile

libraries on wheels!

mobile museums!

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Museum

Fair

## Confirmed Participants Include:

- African American Museum of Miniatures
  - American Museum of Straw Art
  - Bob Baker Marionette Theater
  - California Sneaker Museum
  - Connecting Cultures Mobile Museum
  - Feminist Library on Wheels (F.L.O.W.)
  - Grandma Prisbrey’s Bottle Village
  - International Printing Museum
  - LACMA On-Site
  - Libros Schimbros’ Bicycle Library
  - Mosquito S.W.A.T. Lab
  - Museum of Teaching & Learning
  - Self Help Graphics’ Barrio Mobile Art Studio
  - Side Street Projects’ Woodworking Bus
  - Theodore Payne Foundation’s Seed Museum
  - Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology
- Plus more to be announced!*



# Welcome Jessica Strand, New Director of Public Programs



Photo Credit: Sarah Shatz

**You’ve lived in L.A. before, but you’ve spent the past nine years in New York. What has been the best part of returning to the West Coast?**

**Strand:** I love New York, but returning to L.A. has been an exciting and essential change. I lived here after college for 15 years and think it’s a great city. I believe the West Coast is still a new frontier and that people here are open to new ideas. I’m drawn to the inventiveness and the progressive nature of the city. It’s exciting to be here and grow the Library Foundation’s public programs.

**As the daughter of the poet Mark Strand, how did your upbringing influence your love of literature?**

**Strand:** I grew up in a literary household. My parents divorced when I was ten, but I was very close to my father and spent my summers with him surrounded by artists and writers. Throughout my childhood my parents both read to me. My father read me various drafts of his poems throughout his life. Books were always a part of what made the world better for us. When I was seven I remember striking in front of the Jefferson Market Library in Greenwich Village when they threatened to close it. Books have always been my lifeline.

**You’ve worked in the world of cultural programming in many different capacities. What’s special about programming for libraries?**

**Strand:** All libraries are different, their collections are different, and the spaces are different. What they all have in common is that they’re free and open, places that foster ideas and knowledge. They are a kind of salvation in the community— places to be quiet, places to think, places to retreat, places to reflect. You have all of this in mind while programming at libraries. Libraries are one of the last places in our culture where people from all walks of life can come, and the doors are open, and the knowledge is there. Our job is to inspire those people to come.

**Accessibility is core to public programs—how do you imagine a more inclusive future for public programming?**

**Strand:** I believe that programs around books and ideas shouldn’t be rarefied, but should be accessible to everyone. What’s changed with

programming at public institutions like libraries is that the written word now touches on so many different genres. Programming doesn’t have to be conventional anymore.

**In New York, you created *Dear America*, a platform for artists to reflect on timely themes like isolation, the broken criminal justice system, and human rights. What inspired this initiative?**

**Strand:** After the Trump inauguration, I wanted to start a series to put artists of all genres together to talk to their country from different points of view. It’s a platform to talk about ideas that we were asking ourselves every day in this country. I’m interested in cross-programming and I hope to bring this to the forefront of the Library Foundation programs.

**What new things can the Library Foundation audiences look for in this spring’s programming?**

**Strand:** I’m hoping to program on a larger scale. I’d like to reach more people of all ages from diverse communities in Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Library represents a complete city. We’ll present a variety of programs without one single type of format. I’d like each season to hang loosely on a theme like identity, or family, or... there are so many themes and ideas open for interpretation!

Right now, I’m looking for a handful of curators from different cultural backgrounds and disciplines to work with me to curate several programs throughout the year. These curators will be notable names who are strong voices in our cultural landscape. Their voices will add another layer to our programs, helping to provide multiple points of view.

In addition to curators, we will be offering conversations by newsmakers about pressing issues that are affecting us as a country—these newsmakers may be politicians, or journalists, or thinkers whose work reflects what we’re reading about our country on a daily basis. And the third type of program I’d like to introduce is a multi-platform one with artists of all genres responding to a theme. These shows will range in size and scope.



**Corkcicle Champagne Flute**  
\$20.95 / Member Price \$17.81



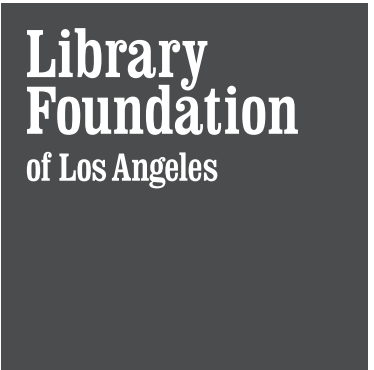
**Collected Curiosities Bibliophile Ceramic Vase**  
\$24.95 / Member Price \$21.21



**LA Original Necklace in Rose Gold Vermeil**  
\$105 / Member Price \$89.25



**Autographed copy of *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean**  
\$28 / Member Price \$23.80



## 2018 HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

This holiday season, shop local at the award-winning Library Store! Library Foundation Members receive a 15% discount, and all proceeds go towards supporting the Los Angeles Public Library. As an added bonus, The Library Store offers free gift-wrapping. To place an order visit us online at [shop.lfla.org](http://shop.lfla.org), or call 213.228.7550.



**Strong Women Make Waves Mug**  
\$15 / Member Price \$12.75



**Felt Coasters by Graf Lantz**  
\$26 / Member Price \$22.10



**Make Your Own Music Box**  
\$18 / Member Price \$15.30



**Narwhal Horns Sidewalk Chalk**  
\$14.95 / Member Price \$12.71



**Wooden Sound System by BizViz**  
\$60 / Member Price \$51



**People I Want to Meet Dish Towel**  
\$10.95 / Member Price \$9.31



**Alice in Wonderland BabyLit edition**  
\$12.99 / Member Price \$11.04



**“Cup of Sunshine” Golden Turmeric and Ginger Tea**  
\$10.95 / Member Price \$9.31



# Spring 2019

Library Foundation  
Public Programs.  
Re-envisioned.

Compelling Themes.  
New Locations.  
Immersive Experiences.  
Guest Curators.  
Strong Partnerships.

The Library Foundation is taking the time to re-envision its public program offerings. We are experimenting, asking questions, and trying new things. New announcements coming soon. Library Foundation Members will always receive advance notice of programs.

For the latest, check [lfla.org/calendar](http://lfla.org/calendar).

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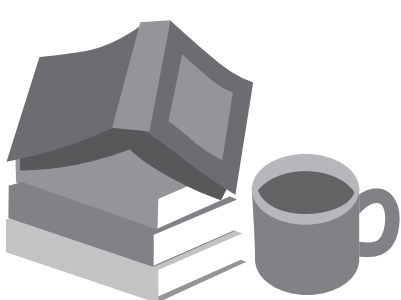
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The Stay Home  
and Read a Book Ball™



While the Library Foundation is finalizing its winter and spring calendar, be sure to Save the Date for these signature events.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10**  
**The Stay Home & Read a Book Ball**  
**Volume 31**  
Featuring Chair Susan Orlean

Support our coziest non-event of the year from the comfort of home! All proceeds will benefit the Los Angeles Public Library’s “Future Ready Teens” Initiative. Sponsorships now available. To learn more, visit [lfla.org/stayhome](http://lfla.org/stayhome) or text “Library” to 41444 to participate.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**  
**CITY MARKET SOCIAL HOUSE**  
**Young Literati 11th Annual Toast**

Every year, Young Literati Members gather to celebrate the Los Angeles Public Library at the Annual Toast, and 2019 marks the 11th anniversary of the event. By a vote of the membership, funds raised this year will support Lifelong Learning at the Library. More details on this signature event will be forthcoming in the new year, but for now, please save the date and plan to join us for the party of the year!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**  
**8th Annual Book Drop BASH**

The largest Library party of the year! Swap books with authors, librarians, and book lovers. Member-only invitation coming soon. Visit [lfla.org/bookdropbash](http://lfla.org/bookdropbash) to learn more.



Various Los Angeles Public Library branches are offering an exciting roster of events in conjunction with *21 Collections: Every Object Has a Story* (more information on page 5). For a full list of events, visit [lfla.org/21collections](http://lfla.org/21collections)

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2:00 PM**  
**GRANADA HILLS BRANCH LIBRARY**  
**A Living Collection:**  
**The Granada Hills Deodars**

Showcasing these historic trees on White Oak Ave. in Granada Hills, this event features speaker Frank McDonough, Arborist at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden, as well as an exhibit of photos and articles.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 3:30 PM**  
**HARBOR CITY BRANCH LIBRARY**  
**Theremin Collection**  
**and Presentation**

Edward Sussman will discuss the history of the Theremin beginning with Leon Theremin, the inventor of the first electronic musical instrument. Patrons will explore the magic of music with the wave of their hands.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 3:00 PM**  
**EDENDALE BRANCH LIBRARY**  
**Bottled & Saved: Seed Collection**  
**and Conservation at the Theodore**  
**Payne Foundation**

The Theodore Payne Foundation has been collecting and saving native seeds in the Los Angeles region since the turn of the 19th century. Follow the story from historic seed, tool, and catalog displays up through modern day seed banking implements and methods, and see portions of this seed collection on display.



**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 in the coming season.

*\*The Library Foundation does not produce or manage these events. For more information visit [lapl.org/lamade](http://lapl.org/lamade).*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2:00 PM**  
**WEST LOS ANGELES**  
**BRANCH LIBRARY**

**Cheesemaking Class**  
Learn how to safely preserve and ferment food at home, adding a flourish to your food’s flavors!

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2:00 PM**  
**CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**Strong Words - Adult Storytelling**  
This popular Silver Lake arts salon returns to LA Made! Join LA’s freshest and most outrageous storytellers for a 90-minute celebration of creativity and community.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2:00 PM**  
**CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**Disasteroid! Musical Comedy**  
Sometimes the end of the world isn’t the end of the world - so what the heck, let’s fall in love and grab life by the throat while we still can. Disasteroid is a romantic musical comedy that is at once charming, subversive, and full of cautious optimism.

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*



# Live From the Library

## Highlights from the 2018 Literary Awards

On September 15th, supporters of the Library Foundation gathered at the Intercontinental Los Angeles in Century City to celebrate the biennial Literary Awards. This year's celebration honored award-winning, international best-selling author George Saunders with the 2018 Literary Award. The Foundation's Light of Learning Award honored Betsy

Applebaum, one of the Library Foundation's most longstanding and dedicated supporters. Both awardees addressed the crowd with heartfelt remarks. The event raised \$1.3 million, and proceeds will support the Los Angeles Public Library in providing reading enrichment and literacy programs, as well as educational and cultural activities for all ages.



Joan Hotchkis, George Saunders, Geoffrey and Susan Wharton



Ron and Margaret Kong, Rosa Easton and LFLA Board Member Mark Easton



Light of Learning Awardee Betsy Applebaum



Robert and Harriett Rose



City Librarian John F. Szabo



Kent Kresa and Lynn Booth



Norris Bishton and LFLA Board Member Debi Bishton



Betsy Applebaum, Alyce Williamson, and Donna Wolff



Moe Goldberg, Larry and Sandy Post, Linda Brittan, and Marcia Caden



Judy Richman, Sandra Peters, and Nancy Koven

# Live From The Library

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

[ALOUD]

### Highlights from ALOUD



Tommy Orange discusses his debut novel, *There There*

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

Young Literati

### Highlights from Young Literati



Kelly Oxford and Busy Philipps discuss Philipps' new book, *This Will Only Hurt a Little*

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

Membership

### Highlights from Member events



The Sidley legal community and LFLA Members enjoyed a reception and screening of *RBG* hosted by Sidley



Attica Locke and Susan Orlean prior to the program celebrating Orlean's *The Library Book*



The youngest literati enjoy the Family Day photobooth



*Lost & Found at the Movies* curator John Nein and filmmaker Morgan Neville



Njideka Akunyili Crosby and Kwame Anthony Appiah tackle questions of identity



Actress and Family Day storytime reader Angelique Cabral and daughter



LFLA Members enjoy an exclusive, celebratory opening of *21 Collections: Every Object Has a Story*



**Library  
Foundation**  
of Los Angeles

**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.*



## Support Your Library!

Visit [lfla.org/support](https://lfla.org/support) to make your gift by December 31 and double your impact.

*See page 2 for full details.*