





Letter from the President

I have excellent news to report: the programs of the Los Angeles Public Library are currently serving record numbers of families, children and students. The 2013-2014 fiscal year was the most successful on record for the Library Foundation of Los Angeles.

This issue of the LFLA newsletter is our way of saying thank you to all who share a love of libraries and want to participate and show their support in tangible ways.

My sense is that what we are experiencing is the result of inspired leadership from the City Librarian John F. Szabo, as well as new programs, expanded services and innovative ideas that, in part, reflect the vital partnership of the Los Angeles Public Library and the Library Foundation of Los Angeles.

What I am hearing (the “word from the neighborhood libraries”), is that individuals in every community have never felt more welcome and supported by what is being offered by their public libraries. From free access to technology, support workshops for kids, SAT study prep for teens, adult English language classes, to guidance on job searches, veteran services, and beginning the path to U.S. citizenship — libraries are much more than alive — they are jumping!

If you have not recently had an opportunity to stop by your neighborhood library or the magnificent Central Library downtown, do not hesitate to go and see for yourself. You will not be disappointed and will experience firsthand what promises to be another record-breaking year.

I’ll see you at the Library,
—Ken Brecher, President

Library Foundation News

Giving Thanks to Our Bibliophiles

“Libraries are essential to the Los Angeles community,” say Randy and George Beckwith. “They are the open door to information and learning for all residents and it is critical that their mission continues into the next century. That is why we support the Library Foundation of Los Angeles both with current gifts and through our bequest.” The Beckwiths are what the Library Foundation affectionately calls

Bibliophiles, members of the planned giving society who love the Los Angeles Public Library and are helping to ensure it remains a vital civic asset for future generations. The Library Foundation would like to thank all of the generous Bibliophiles for leaving a legacy to the nearly four million children, teens, and adults served by the Los Angeles Public Library each year and for years to come.

- Ann Albert

Maysoon Alsandook
and Majid Mohamed Ali

Bob and Melissa Alvarado

Anonymous

Anissa and Paul Balson

Susan and Sean Barrett

Randy and George Beckwith

Barbara Bilson and Bert Woodruff

Muriel P. Bodek

Catherine and Jeff Brown

Michael A. Bullock

Jacqueline and Henry Cahn

Vanessa Chang and Erik Hansen

Florence and Kenneth Chotiner

Carla J. Christofferson
and Adam Shell

Bernice Colman

Diane and John Cooke

Robert M. Cotten

Denise and Eddie De Ochoa

Denise and R. Thomas Decker

Claude J. Dellevar

Alice R. Dick

Daniel and Jeri Floyd

RoseAnne and Thomas Frank
- Melissa Galben

Eileen and Jon Gallo

Ami Gandhi

Judith E. Garratt

Mary E. Gay

Beverly and Bruce Gladstone

Henry Goichman

Dean Hansell

Alan Harrow

Lorraine Hutton

Kristine Kadlec

Stephen A. Kanter, M.D.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Klein

Lynne Knox and Kevan Lynd

Nick J. Labedz

Stephen O. Lesser

Don Marvurges

Mildred Mayne

Janice McCoy Miller

Brooks McEwen and Joshua Brand

Richard F. McKay

Gwen Miller

Elizabeth and Donne Moen

Margaret Moran

Teryl Murabayashi McDermott

Myra and Bruce Newman

- Sharon Oxborough

Sandra and Lawrence Post

Jean S. Rappaport

Jack Rosenberg

Suzanne Rosenblatt and Jeff Buhai

David and Susan Rosenblum

Barbara J. Schwartz

Eileen D. Sever

Myeong-Sim and Philip Young

Ruth Simon

Carolyn Patricia and
Jean Tardy-Vallernaud

Marilyn R. Tauber

Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Thayer, Jr.

Elizabeth and David Thompson

Hsiu-Ann Tom

Bonnie Tone

Patrice S. Traeger

Guadalupe M. Vela

Jack G. Waldron

Aviva Weiner and Paulino Fontes

Gloria and Thomas Wilson

Scott B. Witter

Phyllis J. Yates

Peg Yorkin

Stay Home and Read a Book Ball

Is there a more perfect way to support the cultural and educational programs of the Los Angeles Public Library than to curl up with a good book in your own home knowing that fellow readers all across the city are doing the same thing at the same moment? What resonance! Join us, our event chair Junot Díaz, and other champions of the Library by sending in your donation today and then celebrating the evening as only you know how. Stay home, read a book, and have a ball! The following is a list of additional Patrons not included in the Stay Home and Read a Book Ball invitation.

The Stay Home
and Read
a Book Ball™

LIBRARY HEROES
(\$10,000+)

Wendy and Barry Meyer

LIBRARY ADVOCATES
(\$1,000-\$2,499)

Steven J. Novak
Aviva Weiner and Paulino Fontes

LIBRARY ENTHUSIASTS
(\$500-\$999)

Arleen Burton
Dr. and Mrs. Donald E. Dickerson

LIBRARY ADMIRERS
(\$250-\$499)

Margaret and Danilo Bach
Judy Felsenthal
Jean Friedman
Joan Haseltine
Heinz Jacobson
Megan and Kent Mouton
Marion A. Scharffenberger
Mary Frances Whiting

Los Angeles Public Library News

Bridging the Digital Divide One Library Patron at a Time

With our ever-growing reliance on technology to navigate our daily lives, it’s shocking to hear that one-third of Angelenos still do not have Internet at home. As millions turn to the Los Angeles Public Library for free access to computers, the Internet, wireless access, eBooks, eMusic, and *eEverything*, simply getting to a computer is only solving part of the problem. For those who are inexperienced or uncomfortable using technology, the Library Foundation supports the Cybernauts program, offering personal concierge-like technology assistance to Library users of all ages.

“What’s great about the Cybernauts program is that it puts learning into play,” says Karen Gavidia, an enthusiastic Cybernaut at the Exposition Park branch. “It’s about teaching and keeping patrons updated on technology that is constantly changing and piquing their interest about what’s out there.” Cybernauts are savvy at providing help on a range of issues—from creating email accounts, using word processing and photo sharing programs, to filling out job applications and tax forms. “Teaching a lot of basic things has a long term impact on how people use technology,” explains Gavidia.

Like many of the Cybernauts, Gavidia is from the community she serves and has become a welcoming face in her neighborhood branch. “I used to be a regular patron and a lot of patrons feel more comfortable coming in and asking questions because

they recognize me and I can speak Spanish with them.” Bryan Bazalar, another bilingual Cybernaut and nearby resident of his Panorama City branch, considers himself lucky to be a part of such an inspiring program, which was partially conceived as a way to offer meaningful job training to young adults. He’s currently getting his Masters in Library Science and loves the everyday challenges of problem solving.

“The Internet is not always a clear solution, so I enjoy sitting down with a patron and getting their whole story, and then helping try to solve their issues,” says Bazalar. In his branch, he manages the Student Zones where he helps students with research—teaching students how to use online search engines and find information beyond cursory sites like Google and Wikipedia. But he also has noticed a lot of basic questions arising from students and adults alike on keyboarding issues, so he began offering a weekly keyboarding class to address these needs.

“The biggest benefit that I see patrons get from our coaching is confidence, and that’s very important to overcome fears of using the Internet,” says Bazalar. This year, the Cybernaut program expanded to 32 neighborhood branches as well as Central Library thanks to the generous supporters of the Library Foundation.

As part of the Library’s mission to provide free access to ideas and information, these innovative programs are also empowering individuals through technology supported by the Library Foundation:

FULL STEAM AHEAD
A fun, integrated science, technology, engineering, art, and math program that sparks the imagination, and develops perseverance, problem-solving, and self-confidence. The Library is collaborating with a number of partners, such as Los Angeles Makerspace, Iridescent, Nine Dots, and The Exploratory, to teach workshops in areas like computer programming, electronics and robotics, 3D modeling and printing, animation, filmmaking, and more.

LIVE HOMEWORK HELP
A free online tutoring service that offers one-on-one help with math, science, social studies, English, and Spanish to students in Kindergarten through first-year college as well as adult learners.

STUDENT ZONES
Offering teens and children access to dedicated computers, equipment, and furniture during the after-school hours, including the free use of books, subscription databases, printing, school supplies, trained personnel, and other learning resources.

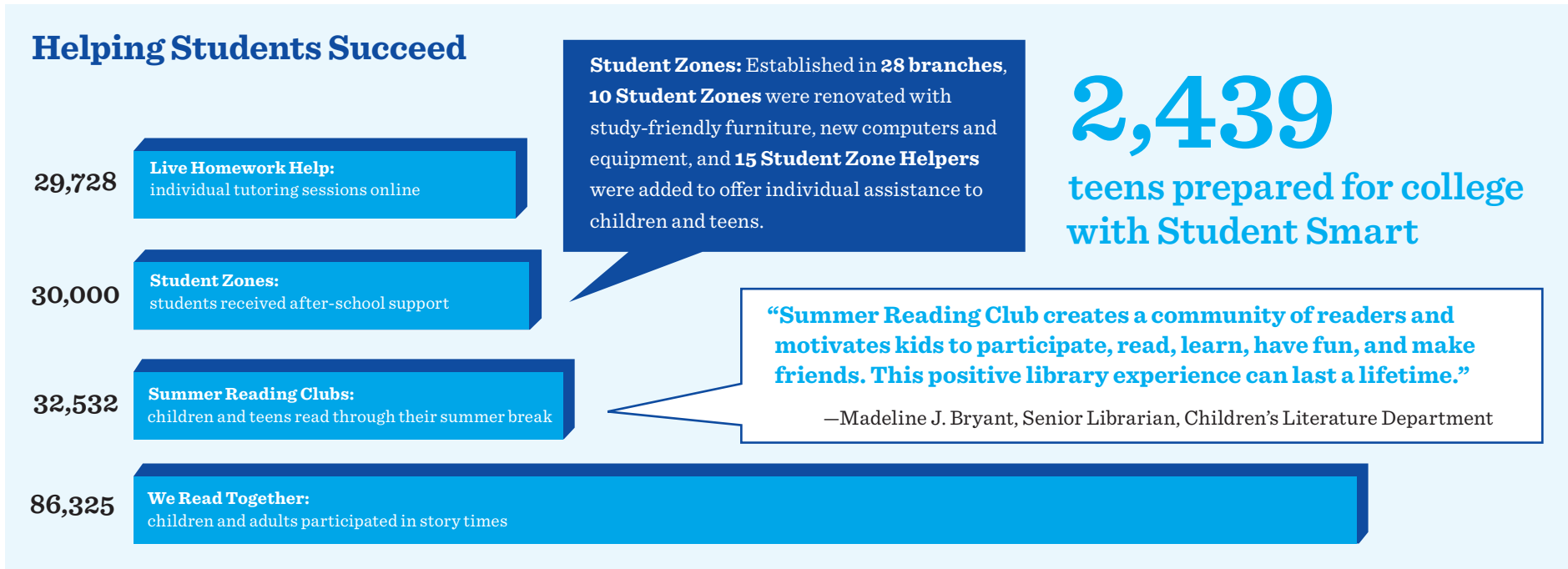
ADULT LITERACY
Committed to breaking the cycle of low literacy in our community, Adult Literacy Services help adults with English literacy skills below a sixth grade level to improve their reading and writing proficiency through one-on-one tutoring as well as self-directed, online practice.

Learn more about these technology initiatives at **lfla.org** and **lapl.org**.

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Year in Review

Here's a snapshot of the growing community that made the Library Foundation's 2013-2014 fiscal year a record-breaking year.



Engaging the Imagination

ALoud

13,596

live audience members engaged in 58 stimulating conversations and performances

1,870

attended the Jeff Koons and John Waters conversation—ALoud’s largest program to date

892

copies of Carlos Santana’s memoir sold and signed at ALoud—The Library Store’s highest sales record

“The ALoud programs provide me with the opportunity to enter the imagination and creative processes of authors and performance artists, and because of that opportunity, my vision has more depth and my understanding more strength. ALoud fosters lifelong learning. Thank you.”
—ALoud audience member

Last year ALoud presented

4 GRAMMY winners
1 Los Angeles Mayor

3 Los Angeles Times Book Prize winners

3 National Book Award winners

4 Pulitzer Prize authors

8 MacArthur geniuses

6 international guests

Literature Through an L.A. Lens

70 activities throughout the branch libraries reinterpreted Homer’s *The Odyssey*

Digitization

14,589 Valley Times newspaper photographs were protected and made accessible online to the public

Lifelong Learning

Adult Literacy

13,255 adults developed their English literacy skills

Cybernauts

64,410 patrons guided through the Library’s electronic resources

Full STEAM Ahead

1,690 individuals innovated by science, technology, engineering, art, and math workshops in 13 Library branches

Health Matters

23,948 people benefited from health-related workshops and resources and guidance through healthcare enrollment

Over a half million electronic and printed materials accessed. After the great success of last year’s pilot program, Health Matters will expand in 2015.

Giving Back

Membership

4,236 Library Foundation Members gave \$1,793,551 to transform the Los Angeles Public Library

Young Literati

327 Young Literati Members

20 Years of The Council has raised over \$20 million for the Library

45 authors hosted in 45 homes for the 2013 Literary Feasts, supporting programs for children and teens, cutting-edge technology, and adult literacy

200 Seven Grand signature Old Fashioneds drunk at the 2014 Annual Toast, which raised over \$100,000 for the Library’s Summer Reading Clubs

Financials

LFLA 2013-2014 REVENUES

REVENUE	Amount	%
Corporate	\$106,975	1%
Foundations	\$1,812,751	17%
Individuals	\$2,903,674	27%
Government	\$155,000	1%
Other Revenue *	\$308,306	3%
Revenue Subtotal	\$5,286,706	49%
Endowment, Investment, Other Income	\$5,091,245	47%
Library Store	\$500,003	4%
Grand Total Revenue	\$10,877,954	100%

EXPENSES

	Amount	%
Program, Directly to the Library	\$2,930,888	48%
Program, Other	\$1,180,668	19%
General and Administration	\$687,504	11%
Fundraising	\$819,259	13%
Library Store	\$548,667	9%
Total Expenses	\$6,166,986	100%

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Increase in Net Assets	\$4,710,968	(Note A)
% of LFLA's Net Assets	13.48%	

LFLA 2013-2014 EXPENSES

Note A: The increase in net assets of \$4,710,968 is primarily due to the net unrealized and realized gain, of \$4,200,990, on endowment investments at fiscal year-end, the additional \$250,000 bequest from Victoria E. Foote and new endowments established (i.e., Claire Patterson-Hutto: \$250,000, Sharon Oxborough: \$50,000 and Lynn Strasburg Miller: \$50,000).

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

UNRESTRICTED	UNDESIGNATED	BOARD DIRECTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
OPERATING ACTIVITY: SUPPORT & REVENUE					
Contributions	\$1,402,655	\$250,000	\$2,643,732	\$350,000	\$4,646,387
Fund-raising events – net of direct expenses of \$116,405	-	-	640,320	-	640,320
Store revenues, net of discounts	500,003	-	-	-	500,003
	1,902,658	250,000	3,284,052	350,000	5,786,710
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	3,513,078	-	(3,513,078)	-	-
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	5,415,736	250,000	(229,026)	350,000	5,786,710
EXPENSES					
Program Services					
Adopt-a-branch and computer aides	483,802				483,802
Adult literacy	731,784				731,784
Technology	142,142				142,142
Cultural programs	833,161				833,161
Exhibitions	23,634				23,634
Children's programs	422,747				422,747
Library awareness and collections	777,778				777,778
Teen programs	696,508				696,508
Library Store	548,667				548,667
Total Program Services	4,660,223				4,660,223
Supporting Services					
General and administrative	687,504				687,504
Fund-raising	819,259				819,259
Total Supporting Services	1,506,763				1,506,763
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,166,986				6,166,986
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	(751,250)	250,000	(229,026)	350,000	(380,276)
NONOPERATING ACTIVITY					
Interest and dividends	115,083	339,205	394,839		849,127
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(12,571)	1,947,105	2,266,456		4,200,990
Change in value of charitable remainder trusts	-	-	41,127		41,127
	102,512	2,286,310	2,702,422		5,091,244
TRANSFERS	432,438	(432,438)	-		-
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(216,300)	2,103,872	2,473,396		4,710,968
BEGINNING NET ASSETS	2,138,136	14,909,629	7,514,850	\$10,386,301	34,948,916
ENDING NET ASSETS	\$1,921,836	\$17,013,501	\$9,988,246	\$10,736,301	\$39,659,884

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2013
Cash and cash equivalents	\$751,095	\$553,591
Investments	37,051,011	30,454,112
Pledges receivable	1,750,024	3,548,368
Library store inventory	117,608	116,000
Property and equipment, net	86,814	65,246
Interests in charitable remainder trusts	464,213	423,086
Other assets	53,708	100,863
TOTAL ASSETS	\$40,274,473	\$35,261,266
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$470	\$4,660
Accrued expenses	86,619	129,990
Deferred revenue	527,500	177,700
	614,589	312,350
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Available for general operations	1,921,836	2,138,136
Board-directed endowment	17,013,501	14,909,629
	18,935,337	17,047,765
Temporarily restricted		
Specific purpose	3,286,609	2,945,032
Endowment	6,701,637	4,569,818
	9,988,246	7,514,850
Permanently restricted – endowment		
	10,736,301	10,386,301
Total Net Assets	39,659,884	34,948,916
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$40,274,473	\$35,261,266

The audited financials, complete with disclosure notes, are available for view and download on the Library Foundation's website, at lfla.org/about/newsroom

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ALoud Spring Preview: The Extraordinary Tracy K. Smith

Throughout the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet’s new memoir, *Ordinary Light*, radiant flashes of poetry permeate Tracy K. Smith’s narrative. With great empathy and attention to beauty, Smith recalls her childhood growing up in a sheltered Northern California town, and explores belief, loss, history, and what it means to be black in America. Set against the backdrop of her mother’s illness and death, Smith struggles to understand her mother’s faith until she finds peace and a prayer-like solace through poetry. Before she takes the ALoud stage this spring to discuss her moving account of a daughter’s journey, we caught up with Smith about the power of communing with language.

Both poetry and memoir are deeply personal types of writing. What sparked the need to write a memoir that poetry could not fulfill?

Smith: I wanted to get out of familiar territory with this story. I wanted to let go of the tools with which I as a poet was most familiar in order to truly explore and interrogate this material. I’d been writing about my mother in poems for a long time, but prose required me to ask different questions, go after different kinds of insights, say things more directly and interrogate the thought process on the page before the reader’s eyes.

Your memoir centers around the loss of your mother. What were the challenges and/or rewards of grappling with such a difficult subject?

Smith: It was thrilling to recreate the feeling of being in my mother’s presence. It was a gift to go back and allow these very specific memories to emerge. And yes, it was difficult to confront and acknowledge some of the

unresolved conflicts that also characterized our relationship. But thinking things through in language was powerful, as was working with a memory until an insight that was previously unrealized began to announce itself. That kind of retrospection helped me to discover for the first time some of the constant themes running through my own life. Writing helped me, quite literally, make sense of the major experiences I had lived.

What were some of the other stories from your past that echoed in your memory and you wanted to explore on the page?

Smith: I wanted to talk about race. I wanted to record and examine what it felt like growing up black in California in the 1970s and 80s. I wanted to talk through some of my own religious preoccupations and clarify for myself what God has meant in my life.

In regards to exploring faith, you describe how the writing of poetry is a type of prayer. Many writers feel the opposite of being at peace while writing. How did poetry come to offer you a kind of inward serenity?

Smith: I’m not saying that writing is easy, or that it’s an instant route to inner peace. But being able to reflect upon and to listen to experience in a way that is markedly quieter and more complex than what happens in real-time, during the hectic, noisy, distracting day-to-day, does to me feel purposeful and centering. I think that prayer might be, for many people, a manner of reaching out to something larger and more meaningful than oneself; I feel the same way about poetry, even if what I am seeking to listen to or commune with is simply another region of my own mind. My shorthand for what

I’m after when I’m writing is access to the unconscious. But I also hope it might even be possible to draw from sources of meaning that sit beyond the self.

ALoud takes place at the Los Angeles Public Library; we’re curious if you have any connections to public libraries?

Smith: Oh of course! I spent afternoons after school all through my childhood wandering the aisles in the public library. And even as an adult, the Brooklyn and New York Public Libraries have brought me right back to that feeling of being a single small person in the presence of innumerable vast worlds, all lined up on the shelves and within reach.



Thursday, May 28, 7:15 PM
Ordinary Light: A Memoir
Tracy K. Smith
In conversation with Lynell George

Changing Lives: L.A.’s New Poet Laureate Luis J. Rodriguez

“L.A. is the most culturally rich of U.S. cities, expansive in size, but also in spirit and imagination,” says Luis J. Rodriguez, who was appointed last October by Mayor Eric Garcetti as the second poet laureate in L.A. history. Besides being an award-winning author of 15 books and the founder of Tia Chucha’s Cultural Center and Bookstore in Sylmar, Rodriguez is a fierce community activist. For forty years, he’s been active in gang peace and youth development, deeply rooted in the urban consciousness of many neighborhoods across Los Angeles. “We [Angelenos] have a complex history that includes diminishment, oppression, losses. But we also dream big and try to shape the world with big hands, big hearts, big minds.” Rodriguez is whole-heartedly embarking on his new poet laureate post with plans of collaborating with the Los Angeles Public Library, as well as schools, museums, community spaces, probation camps, juvenile halls, and more to make poetry “an everyday, every occasion thing” across every community. We asked how books changed his life, and here Rodriguez shares his personal story:

In 1956 my family came to Los Angeles from the border area of Ciudad Juarez/El Paso. I didn’t speak English entering

L.A. schools. In those days, they punished us for speaking Spanish. And they didn’t teach us English well. I began an intense street life—stealing at seven, breaking into schools at 10, joining a gang at 11, drug use at 12. My parents tried to keep a stable life, but my father worked as a custodian far away, leaving early, coming late. My mother had her hands full with four rambunctious children, and when she worked it was in the garment district or cleaning homes. Somebody fell through the cracks—it turned out to be me. I dropped out of school at 15 and my parents promptly kicked me out of the house. I was briefly homeless in downtown L.A., sleeping in abandoned cars, in all-night movie theaters, along the L.A. River. But one thing that saved me was books. I loved to read as I learned more English. At 10, a teacher read aloud “Charlotte’s Web” and I was hooked. Libraries became my refuge, in particular the Central Public Library, where I roamed the aisles during the day. I was the weird homie with books under my arms. Nobody else in my family or among my friends seemed to like books. Books never belittled me, beat me, or told me I’d “never amount to anything.” Despite nights in jail, drug use and violent acts, by age 19 I was done with “the crazy life.” I longed for another world, another person, one linked to deep social

change and creative expression. By twenty, I had obtained a high school diploma, painted murals, took part in community protests—and my first son was born. I had transformed. Around five years later, I worked as a reporter and recited poems at cafes and cultural spaces. Books were there every step of the way.



City Librarian John F. Szabo welcomed Luis J. Rodriguez as L.A. Poet Laureate at the Central Library

More Upcoming Poetry at ALoud

Thursday, April 30, 7:15 PM
Writing Our Future
Readings from Graduate Writing Programs of the Southland

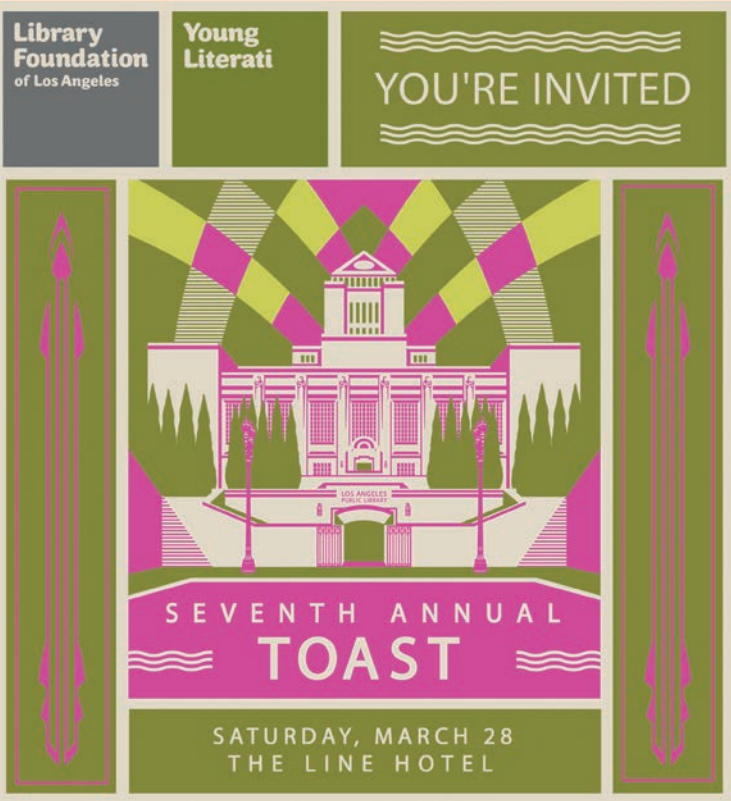
Tuesday, May 19, 7:15 PM
**A Seismographic Attention:
An Evening Of and On Poetry with Jane Hirshfield**
In conversation with Louise Steinman

Young Literati
Seventh Annual Toast
Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 8:00 PM
The LINE Hotel

Join Curators Roy Choi, Shepard and Amanda Fairey, Jason Reitman and Kate Hudson along with Honorary Hosts, and Young Literati Members in celebration of the Los Angeles Public Library. The Seventh Annual Toast will explore the delicious and diverse literary history of L.A.

Patron packages from \$1250
VIP tickets available for \$400 each
General admission tickets: \$175 per person, \$125 Young Literati Members

To purchase tickets, visit lfla.org. For more information, contact Jennifer Kondo, Director of Young Literati, at jenniferkondo@lfla.org or 213.228.7326.



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

In the coming months, *To Live and Dine in L.A.* will bring to the table over 9,000 pieces from the Los Angeles Public Library’s vast menu collection, featuring:

- Citywide public programs
- A special exhibition at Central Library
- A new book by Angel City Press, edited by USC Annenberg Professor Josh Kun with contributions by Roy Choi, Susan Feniger, Nancy Silverton, Micah Wexler, and Joachim Splichal

To watch the project come together, visit toliveanddinelocal.com.

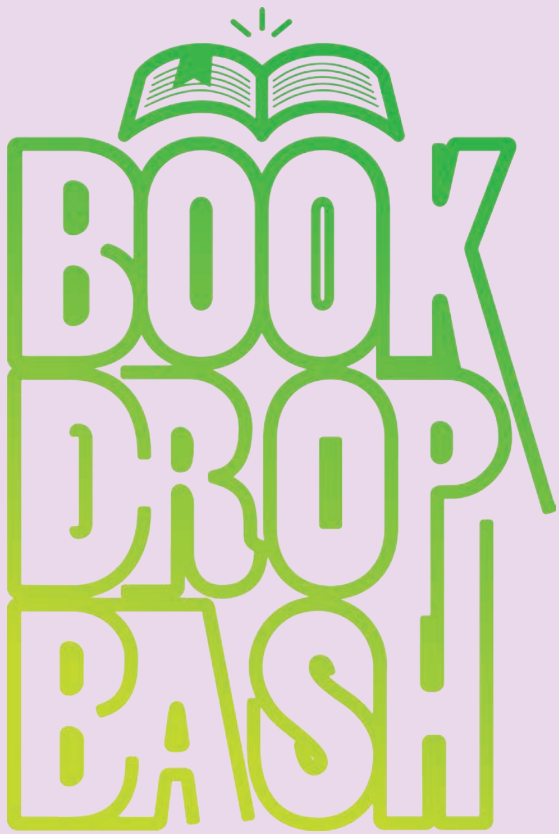


Book Drop BASH!
Saturday, April 18, 2015 at 8:30 PM
Central Library

Library Foundation Members are invited to celebrate the literary life of Los Angeles well into the night at the fourth annual **Book Drop BASH**, the official after-party of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prizes. Rub shoulders with your favorite authors, participate in the legendary book swap, enjoy music and drinks, and dance the night away in the breathtaking Central Library!

Not a Library Foundation Member? Contact Membership Director Megan Hamilton at meganhamilton@lfla.org or 213.292.6242 to find out how you can attend.

More information coming soon! Check lfla.org/bookdropbash.





A celebrated literary series of conversations, readings, and performances at the downtown Central Library, ALOUD brings together today's brightest cultural, scientific, and political luminaries to the city of Los Angeles and beyond. ALOUD at Central Library programs are FREE, unless otherwise indicated. Programs are subject to change.



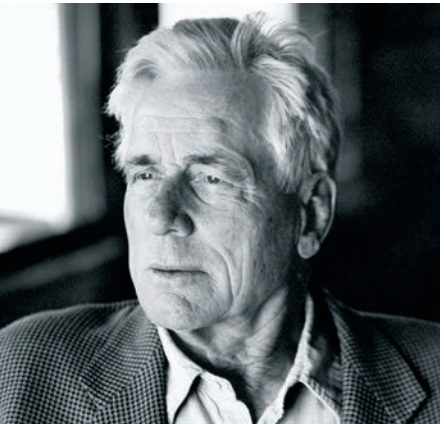
Ana Tijoux



Bill T. Jones. Credit: Stephanie Berger



Karima Bennouna. Credit: Florence Low



Thomas McGuane. Credit: Bruce Weber



Jennifer Clement. Credit: Michael Loenter



Jennifer Clement. Credit: Barbara Sibbey



Sandy Tolan

March

Wednesday, March 4, 7:15 PM
Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad
Eric Foner
In conversation with Randall Kennedy, author and Michael R. Klein Professor of Law at Harvard Law School
The Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and consultant on the Academy Award-winning film *12 Years a Slave* discusses his latest book, which unearths extraordinary findings from Columbia University's archives to shed new light on the Underground Railroad. Join Foner in conversation with Harvard Law Professor Randall Kennedy for an illuminating look at the fraught history of American slavery and the courageous acts of individuals who defied the law in the fight for freedom decades before the Civil War.

Thursday, March 5, 7:15 PM
Co-presented with Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA
Story/Time: The Life of An Idea
Performance by Bill T. Jones with Talli Jackson and Erick Montes Chavero
In conversation with Kristy Edmunds, Director, Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA
The multi-talented dancer, choreographer, and director Bill T. Jones presents a provocative collage of movement, music, and personal narrative from *Story/Time*, a recent dance work produced by his company and inspired by the legendary composer John Cage. This program coincides with the publication of a new book based on Jones' brilliant hybrid work and meditations as an African American artist struggling to find a place in a white-dominated dance world. Jones and two extraordinary dancers from his company will perform and then discuss this powerful experiment in storytelling.

Tuesday, March 10, 7:15 PM
The War in Ukraine: Propaganda and Reality
Timothy D. Snyder and Masha Gessen
In conversation with Justinian Jampol, Founder and Executive Director, The Wende Museum and Archive of the Cold War
A year ago, Russia invaded Ukraine, destroying a peaceful order in Europe and placing its own regime at risk. We in the West have experienced this historical turning point through a haze of propaganda. According to Snyder, the Kremlin was perhaps wrong about the political weakness of Ukraine, but likely right about some intellectual weaknesses of Americans and Europeans. When will the war end? This rare pairing of two essential thinkers on Eastern European politics offers a revelatory look at why what happens in Ukraine is of significant international importance.

Monday, March 23, 7:15 PM
Unveiling North Korea with Fact and Fiction
Adam Johnson and Blaine Harden
Coming together for the first time on stage, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Adam Johnson and bestselling nonfiction author Blaine Harden explore how their different paths of storytelling led them to similar truths about illusive North Korea. Join Johnson, author of the spellbinding novel, *The Orphan Master's Son*, and Harden, author of the new historical exposé, *The Great Leader and the Fighter Pilot: The True Story of the Tyrant Who Created North Korea and the Young Lieutenant Who Stole His Way to Freedom*, for a fascinating discussion about the world's longest-lasting totalitarian regime.

April

Tuesday, March 31, 7:15 PM
Crow Fair: Stories
Thomas McGuane
In conversation with David L. Ulin, book critic, Los Angeles Times
In his first collection in nine years, McGuane confirms his status as a modern master of Big Sky country. With a comic genius that recalls Mark Twain, and his own beautiful way with words, McGuane (*The Bushwacked Piano, Gallatin Canyon, Ninety-two in the Shade*) offers a jubilant and thunderous new batch of stories about life's complicated nature from the wilds of Montana. Join us for a reading and conversation with one of America's most deeply admired storytellers.

Thursday, April 2, 7:15 PM
Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here: Untold Stories from the Fight Against Muslim Fundamentalism
Karima Bennouna
In conversation with Ani Zonneveld, President, Muslims for Progressive Values
A veteran of twenty years of human rights research and activism and recent recipient of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, Bennouna offers an eye-opening chronicle of peaceful resistance to extremism in her recent book. Scouring the globe for stories of heroic individuals —artists, doctors, lawyers, and educators — who challenge stereotypes of Islamist fundamentalism, Bennouna shares these vivid portraits that offer an uplifting look at our best hopes for ending fundamentalist oppression worldwide.

Wednesday, April 8, 7:15 PM
The Light in Her Eyes
Julia Meltzer and Laura Nix
Film screening and Q&A
Shot before the Syrian uprising of 2011, *The Light in Her Eyes* offers an extraordinary portrait of a leader who challenges the women of her community to live according to Islam without giving up their dreams. At the heart of the documentary is Houda al-Habash, a conservative Muslim preacher who founded a Qur'an school for girls in Damascus 30 years ago. The film captures the surprising cultural shift set in motion as these women claim their space within the historically male dominated mosque. Join local filmmakers Julia Meltzer and Laura Nix for a rare look into an alternative experience of contemporary Islam.

Tuesday, April 21, 7:15 PM
Children of the Stone: The Power of Music in a Hard Land
Sandy Tolan
In conversation with Kelly McEvers, NPR correspondent
The veteran journalist and critically acclaimed author of *The Lemon Tree*, brings us another true story of hope in the Palestinian-Israeli impasse. His newest book, *Children of the Stone*, chronicles a young violinist—Ramzi Hussein Aburedwan—who escapes a Palestinian refugee camp and later returns to fulfill his dream: establishing a music school with the help of Israeli musicians including Daniel Barenboim, director of the Berlin State Opera and La Scala. Join Tolan for a moving conversation about how a love of music transforms and empowers lives in a war-torn land.

Thursday, April 23, 7:15 PM
Co-presented with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association
Rebel Spirit: Lyrics of Power and Protest
Ana Tijoux
In conversation with poet and translator Jen Hofer
Raising her voice for women's rights, immigration reform, environmental activism, and more, GRAMMY-nominated musician Ana Tijoux has transformed the global stage with her politically powered verses. Unbounded by geography and genre, Tijoux's songwriting reflects the literary influences of her youth and the rich musical traditions of her native Chile. From Eduardo Galeano to Violeta Parra, hear—through conversation and song—the inspirations that fuel her rebel spirit.

Interpretation between Spanish and English will be provided by Antena Los Angeles

Monday, April 27, 7:15 PM
The Great Divide: Unequal Societies and What We Can Do About Them
Joseph Stiglitz
In conversation with journalist Jim Newton
Stiglitz, winner of the 2001 Nobel Memorial Prize for Economics, has time and time again offered a singular voice of reason to diagnose America's greatest economic challenges. In his provocative new book, the bestselling author makes an urgent case for Americans to solve inequality now. Veteran journalist Jim Newton engages Stiglitz in conversation, probing for answers to the greatest threat to American prosperity—the yawning gap between the rich and the poor.

May

Thursday, April 30, 7:15 PM
Writing Our Future
Readings from Graduate Writing Programs of the Southland
Our second annual gathering unites students from five Southland graduate writing programs—CalArts, Otis College, UC Irvine, UC Riverside, and USC—to share recent work and tune our ears to the future of language. What are the ideas, forms, questions, syntaxes, images, and narratives of our immediate future? Who better as our compass in the wilds of the now than emerging writers?

Thursday, May 14, 7:15 PM
Co-presented with LéaLA, Feria del Libro en Español de Los Angeles
Prayers for the Stolen
Jennifer Clement
In conversation with Magdalena Edwards, writer and editor at the Los Angeles Review of Books
Inspired by the author's years living in Mexico and ten years of field research, this transporting, visceral novel tells the story of young women in rural Guerrero who live in the shadows of the drug war. The poetic narrative of heroine Ladydi—disguised by her mother as a boy for protection from the vicious cartels—shows great resilience and resolve as a young woman caught in a real-life nightmare. This work by award-winning author and the former President of PEN Mexico, ensures that the most vulnerable voices cannot be silenced at a time when fiction never seemed truer to fact than the present.

With special musical guest Ceci Bastida

Tuesday, May 19, 7:15 PM
A Seismographic Attention: An Evening Of and On Poetry
Jane Hirshfield
In conversation with Louise Steinman, curator, ALOUD
The masterful poet and essayist shares her latest two works—*Ten Windows: How Great Poems Transform the World*, a dazzling collection of essays on poetry, and *The Beauty*, her newest book of poems—for a close look at poetry's power to expand our perception of the perimeters of existence. Join Hirshfield as she walks us through many wonderful poems, examining how they work by tuning our attention, renovating language, and unfastening the mind.

Thursday, May 28, 7:15 PM
Ordinary Light: A Memoir
Tracy K. Smith
In conversation with author and journalist Lynell George
The Pulitzer Prize-winning poet discusses her new memoir, a gorgeous kaleidoscope of self and family that explores the meaning of home against a complex backdrop of race, religion, and unbreakable bonds. With lyrical precision and a tender intelligence, Smith delves into the life and death of her mother, and her struggle to understand her mother's steadfast Christian faith until she discovers a prayer-like solace in poetry. Lynell George, whose own body of work includes reflections about place, family, and her mother, leads an intimate conversation with Smith about the extraordinary journey of a daughter.

INFORMATION

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AUTHOR SIGNINGS/BOOK SALES
ALOUD is one of the many free programs the Library Foundation makes possible at the Los Angeles Public Library. Most ALOUD author programs are followed by book signings. To help sustain this valuable cultural exchange, at least one copy of the author's book must be purchased from The Library Store if you wish to participate in the post-program book signing. Proceeds support the Los Angeles Public Library. Library Foundation Members receive a 15% discount on all Library Store purchases.

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

PARKING
Westlawn Garage, 524 S. Flower Street
Parking validation available during Library open hours. \$1 for cars entering after 3:00 PM until 9:00 PM with validation.

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[ALoud]

Highlights from the ALoud winter season



Actor/performer Cheech Marin interviews musician/author Carlos Santana



Comedian Patton Oswalt in conversation with his brother, Matt Oswalt



Author/editor Larry Siems and criminal defense lawyer Nancy Hollander discuss *Guantánamo Diary*

Credit: Gary Leonard, Ryan Miller

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

The Council

Highlights from The Council's winter season



Council President Ellen Lipson with guest author Dana Goodyear



Former Library Foundation Board Member Carl McKinzie, guest author Mayor Richard Riordan, and LFLA Board Member Craig Burger



Journalist Anne Taylor Fleming with guest author Alexandra Fuller

Credit: Ryan Miller/Capture Imaging

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

Membership

Behind the scenes with our most generous supporters



Criminal defense lawyer/guest speaker Nancy Hollander and Foundation supporter Sharon Oxborough



Leadership Circle Members enjoy a reception prior to the ALoud program "Guantánamo Diary"



Leadership Circle Members gather in the courtyard prior to an ALoud event

Credit: Gary Leonard

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

Young Literati

Highlights from Young Literati's winter season



A group of Young Literati Members and their guests enjoy a reception following ALoud with Jeff Chang and Justin Simien



LFLA Board Member Nicole Neeman Brady and TJ Brady with their children at Young Literati's first-ever family day



Comedian and guest reader Paul Scheer reads *Dinosaur vs. the Library* at Young Literati's family day

Credit: Gary Leonard, David G. Marks

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