



Freddie Harvey

Perini's

The Biltmore

Kings

EATON'S  
*Santa Anita*

KOW LOON  
CANTONESE  
CUISINE

Biff's Lucca

Ma Maison

Ciro's



Charles Chan

"As the city has changed, so has both the way we eat and the way we talk about what we eat. Menus and restaurants can help shape our lives — they are mirrors and mementos both... keys to understanding a city and its people."

—To Live and Dine in L.A.: An exhibition and book inspired by the menu collection of the Los Angeles Public Library.

The Broadway

Grandview  
GARDENS

The Brown Derby

La Golondrina

EL PASEO  
*de Los Angeles*



Canter's

the Ship Room



Coffee DAN'S

DINO'S LODGE

Bullock's  
Lea Loom

HORACE  
Heidt's

Hody's



Los Angeles UNION STATION Restaurant

Herbert's





Letter from the President

Over the past several years, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles and Los Angeles Public Library have partnered on a number of exciting projects and initiatives: *Songs in the Key of Los Angeles*, inspired by the Library’s sheet music collection, brought attention to the music that helped define the city we know today. Working closely with the neighborhood libraries, we examined classic works of literature (*Moby Dick* and Homer’s *Odyssey*) from our uniquely Southern California perspective; and now we return to the collection for a new book and major exhibition plus scores of programs in libraries across the city. It is called *To Live and Dine in L.A.* and it is filled with discoveries about both our history and our present.

Its genesis began over two years ago when project curator and unstoppable USC professor Josh Kun mentioned to me that no definitive, published history of food existed for Los Angeles. In this city of iconic restaurants, endless world cuisine, and adventurous eaters, how could this be? The project scope grew from there, and along with it an outpouring of support from our city’s most important authorities on food, cuisine, and restaurants. We began to make discoveries that will be shared with the public through the *To Live and Dine* initiative. These will draw attention to the issues of hunger and food insecurity that are prevalent in a city that is nationally regarded as an influential and imaginative food capital of America.

I hope that you will join me in my excitement for *To Live and Dine in L.A.* But my biggest wish is that the project makes you think about food in new ways: that our book suggests something new and unexpected about our city; that our interactive exhibit evokes memories of the recipes passed down and meals shared with your family; and that at one of the many public programs over the next several months, you learn that a menu is really a historical document that tells a larger story about creativity, culture, and the making of a city.

Ken Brecher  
President

Library Foundation News

Monday, October 26, 2015

Literary FEASTS

Celebrating the Los Angeles Public Library 2015

**Presented by The Council of the Library Foundation**

In partnership with the Library Foundation of Los Angeles, members of The Council of the Library Foundation present this signature fundraising event. The Literary Feasts provide a one-of-a-kind opportunity: on one special night, over 750 guests will attend elegant dinners in distinctive homes all over Los Angeles. Each dinner will feature a celebrated author as the guest of honor.

The Literary Feasts provide the **Los Angeles Public Library and its 72 locations** with critical support. The money raised through the Literary Feasts will be invested in building technology in all branches and funding important programs, such as Live Homework Help, Adult Literacy and crucial reading programs for young children. Learn more about this remarkable event by contacting Elizabeth Toms, Director of Council Relations, at [213.228.7506](tel:213.228.7506), or [elizabethtoms@lfla.org](mailto:elizabethtoms@lfla.org).

New and Improved LFLA.org

Over the last few years, the Library Foundation has seen a lot of growth — from fundraising for new initiatives at the Los Angeles Public Library, to expanding innovative cultural programming, to welcoming a growing, dedicated community of Members and donors. We are pleased to unveil an interactive new website making it easier than ever before to connect and get involved in the wide-reaching work of the Library Foundation.

We teamed up with the downtown L.A. design firm WeAreGiants to create a range of tools for you to stay up-to-date on our latest news, join or renew your Membership, RSVP and purchase tickets to events, and shop online at The Library Store with ease. We hope you’ll enjoy exploring the new [lfla.org](http://lfla.org).



Los Angeles Public Library News

Los Angeles Public Library Awarded Nation’s Highest Library Honor

The Institute of Museum and Library Services recently named the Los Angeles Public Library a recipient of this year’s National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Celebrating extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service, this award is the nation’s highest honor, given each year to five libraries and five museums for service to the community.

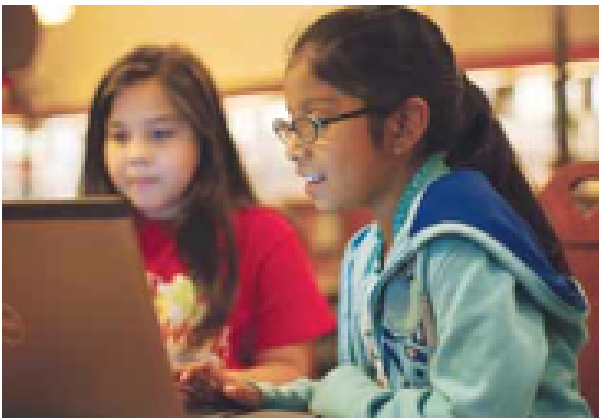
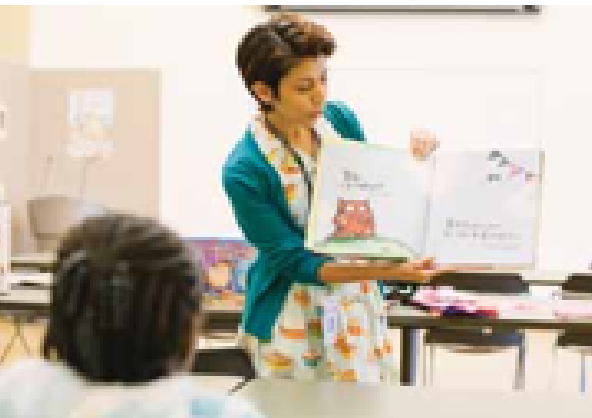
The Los Angeles Public Library was selected for its success in improving the lives of Angelenos every day by providing a level of social, educational, and cultural services unmatched by any other public institution in the city. The award recognizes the Library’s many programs that help people on their path to citizenship, earn their high school diploma, manage their personal finances, and access health and well-being services and resources, among others like specialized programs for veterans.

Congressman Xavier Becerra (CA-34) said, “For over 140 years, the Los Angeles Public Library has served our diverse community of Angelenos with dedication and excellence. Under the superb leadership of City Librarian John F. Szabo, the Library has become a pioneer in delivering innovative and groundbreaking services to all members of the community.”

The Library Foundation would like to join Congressman Becerra in congratulating the Los Angeles Public Library for this well deserved recognition!



City Librarian John F. Szabo and Los Angeles Public Library Patron Sergio Sanchez accept the National Medal for Museum and Library Service from First Lady Michelle Obama



Checking Out E-Media in Record Numbers

“I want to make sure our libraries keep up with how literature and information are consumed in the 21st Century so that they remain as key centers for community and learning,” said Mayor Eric Garcetti recently, in announcing that the Los Angeles Public Library lent a record amount of e-media in 2014. From the downloading of films, music, books, audiobooks, and magazines to other material from the Library’s website, last year over two million e-media items were checked out—that’s a staggering 69 percent increase from the previous year.

Beyond the popular e-media collection, the Library’s online resources include more than 800 online courses, access to special digitized collections, and the web-based real-time Live Homework Help, which has helped over 32,000 students. Los Angeles has the first public library system in the nation to offer adults the opportunity to earn their high school diploma online as well as a variety of career certificates.

Many technology initiatives are expanding across the branches to provide even

greater access to online tools, including a program to check out iPads from the Palms Rancho Park branch and Nook tablets at the Panorama City and Sun Valley branches. The Central Library launched a “Tech Kiosk,” which automatically dispenses laptops and tablets for use within the Library, and Los Angeles is the first large library system to provide mobile printing services accessible from tablets or smart phones at ten branches.

“The Los Angeles Public Library is a place that changes lives by giving people the tools they need to succeed, and technology allows us to make these resources, faster, easier and more convenient to access,” said City Librarian John F. Szabo. Overall, Los Angeles’ 73 libraries saw 14,584,162 visits last year with over 15,086,605 books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, and electronic resources checked out total. The Library’s website at [lapl.org](http://lapl.org) was the most visited city website, with almost 22 million unique visits.



# Join Us at the Table for “To Live and Dine in L.A.”

Los Angeles has become one of the great food capitals of the world, and if like the saying goes, “you are what you eat,” then what does the city’s relationship to food say about its people? Launching this summer, the Library Foundation will celebrate the rich—and untold—history of restaurants and food in the City of Angels with “To Live and Dine in L.A.,” an exciting new project spotlighting the Los Angeles Public Library’s extensive menu collection.

Following up on 2013’s “Songs in the Key of L.A.,” which celebrated the Library’s sheet music collection, this new project will be the second in a series of collaborations between the Library Foundation and the Los Angeles Public Library to explore the Library’s historically significant collections. “One of the many important roles [libraries] play is celebrating Los Angeles, its history, the fabulous and complex diversity of its residents, and L.A.’s tremendous contributions to the arts, technology, and culture,” writes City Librarian John Szabo. “Menus are like libraries. They serve as menus to the world and take you places.”

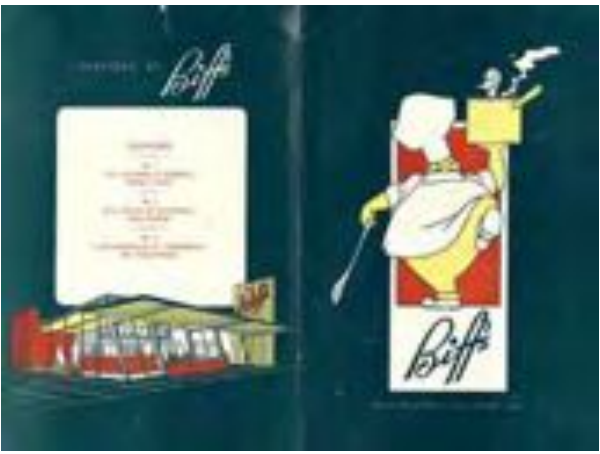
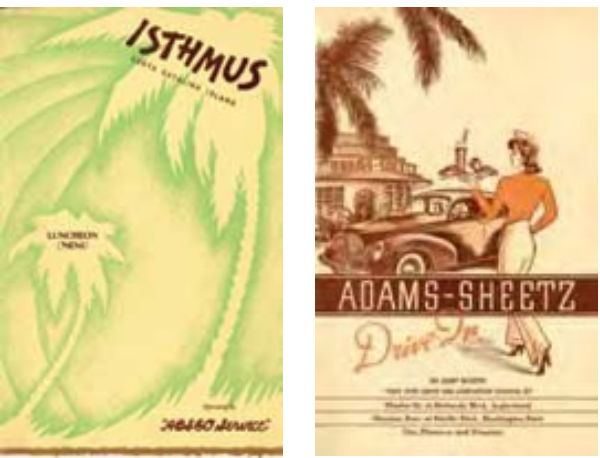
The menu project kicks off with the publication of *To Live and Dine in L.A.: Menus and the Making of the Modern City*, the first-ever book exploring the long history of restaurants and menus in Los Angeles, written and edited by USC Annenberg Professor Josh Kun and published by Angel City Press. “At its heart is a celebration of how a fundamental human need both inspires creativity and defines a city,” writes Library Foundation President Ken Brecher. This visual feast of a book features more than 200 menus with insights on L.A.’s food scene from chefs and restaurateurs like Roy Choi, Joachim Splichal, Nancy Silverton, Susan

Feniger, Ricardo Diaz, Jazz Singsanong, Cynthia Hawkins, Bricia Lopez, and Micah Wexler, and cultural observers like Jonathan Gold and Staci Steinberger, among many others.

Beginning Saturday, June 13, the Library Foundation will open a major exhibition in the Getty Gallery at downtown’s historic Central Library with rare archival menus and restaurant photographs from the Library’s collection, dating from 1875 to 1980. Designed by the acclaimed team wHY, the exhibit will invite visitors to connect around a “welcome table” while seated at lunch counters, banquet tables, and lazy susans. The exhibit will also include installations by contemporary artists Fallen Fruit, Haruko Tanaka, and Karla Diaz, a video wall of short interviews with contemporary chefs, and “My L.A. Menu,” providing visitors blank menus to write their own quintessential L.A. meal.

Throughout the summer a diverse slate of public programs will run at over 30 neighborhood branches across the city to raise awareness of food politics and food insecurity in contemporary Los Angeles. Working closely with organizations that are concerned with creating a city where healthy, sustainable, and equitable food sources are available for everyone, the Library will offer free programs to educate and empower local communities about food issues through story times, lectures, nutrition workshops, cooking demonstrations, and other creative activities.

Visit [lfa.org/live-and-dine](http://lfa.org/live-and-dine) for more information about the “To Live and Dine in L.A.” project and programming. To explore the menu collection and other special collections, visit [lapl.org](http://lapl.org).



# Interview with Curator Josh Kun: Re-thinking the Modern City through Menus of Its Past

Following the vibrant collaboration with the Library Foundation and the Los Angeles Public Library in 2013 to rediscover one of the Library’s hidden treasures—its vast sheet music collection—cultural scholar and USC Annenberg Professor Josh Kun eagerly signed on to continue mining the Library’s archives. “Our experience with reanimating these archival documents and bringing them to life in the contemporary city was something that I wanted to keep doing, and what better next step from music, but direct to food,” said Kun. Under the guidance of librarians, who had already digitized a large portion of the Library’s roughly 9,000-piece menu collection, Kun and a group of his students pieced together an unprecedented history of how, where, and what people ate in Los Angeles over the past century. Culminating in the publication of a book and city-wide programming to take place throughout 2015, we spoke to Kun about how looking into the past for “To Live and Dine in L.A.” revealed a new understanding of Los Angeles today.

**Once you took inventory of the Library’s huge menu collection, what was the next step in your research?**

**Kun:** Much to my surprise there really are no books—scholarly or otherwise—that detail the long history of restaurants and food culture and food industry in Los Angeles. That was both exciting, because we realized we were going to be able to make some very original contributions here, but also daunting because of the amount of research we had to do, particularly of the 1875-1945 period. My students and I started primary research through *the Los Angeles Times*, the *Los Angeles Star*, the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*, the *El Clamor Público*, and the *Pacific Coast Record*, going through newspapers, magazines, tourist pamphlets, etc. searching for anything restaurant or food related. That provided me with way more information than I could include in the book as a historical and critical context. One of the things I’m most proud of about the book is that we include a very extensive bibliography of the materials we used for research that I hope will be very helpful to other researchers and people who are interested.



**What were some of your most interesting discoveries about L.A.’s food history?**

**Kun:** Early on it was very interesting to find a lot of press coverage about Los Angeles as an affordable city for working class eating. There were a lot of *Los Angeles Times* articles celebrating the low cost of living and the low cost of food in Los Angeles. An average working person could get a meal for 50 cents.

I did a lot of research particularly around issues of race and class. Research provides a sense of the early history of African American-owned restaurants and where African Americans were allowed to eat in the city in the late 1800s and early 1900s. There’s some stuff in the book about drive-ins like the Wich Stand, for example, that was the site of—in the early 1950s—one of the most prominent sit-ins in L.A. history, where a black teenager was denied service and he led a protest against the restaurant. Those kinds of stories that I really tried to understand and the ways that restaurants had windows into larger political and social issues—that’s where a lot of the research pointed me.

The most commonly held idea we kept seeing journalists talk about was the first restaurant in Los Angeles, and most of them said it was in 1852 at a restaurant called LaRue’s. Our research shows that is probably not true. The first stand alone restaurant—if not earlier—is the one I have record of in 1850 with a restaurant called the Old American. Probably the first restaurant that was not free-standing was the restaurant of the Bella Union Hotel, which opened in 1849.

**What are some of the earliest menus from the collection?**

**Kun:** The earliest menu from the collection is 1875, which was Don Mateo Keller’s banquet dinner. He’s a very interesting character—he was an Irish immigrant who owned an original Malibu land grant. He was a winemaker and part of the early culture of L.A. winemaking.

The 1905 menu from Taits was the earliest menu from the Library’s collection that had a priced menu. It was a lunch menu, which was a great example of that early trend of L.A. lunch rooms downtown where for the first time people were starting to go out to eat—it wasn’t just the wealthy.



**These menus document the importance of the economy in food culture. What have you learned from looking at this role that is still relevant today?**

**Kun:** Part of the story we try to tell in the book is the long arc of how restaurants and the industry of food have always been a negotiation over access. Right now we’re very used to talking about these ideas around food inequality across Los Angeles. By going through these menus you see that over time we are a city—like many others—where to eat out takes money and not everybody has money. Dining out and eating in restaurants has always been to a certain degree a privileged act and being able to see that in a larger historical frame has been very interesting.

One thing we focus on that relates to the contemporary moment is that now we talk a lot about farm-to-table, and how important it is to go back to small farms. This is the contemporary critique against the industrialization of food that took off in the 1950s. If you read these menus pre-1955, you see menus that were farm-to-table in the way we talk now, but they didn’t have the kind of pretense and cultural prestige of being artisanal that we now see. Most restaurants where every day people ate—the chickens they were eating were coming from local farms. Where else would the chicken come from? The industrialization of food had not happened yet, so it’s interesting to compare that period to the contemporary.

**Much of this project raises awareness about the evolution of how we eat. What do you hope people take away from this exploration?**

**Kun:** The book is a historical look into particular issues around food and restaurants with emphasis on food’s relationship to community, class, race, and gender. My intentions are to use these menus as a springboard for conversations about contemporary food politics in the city. Although there’s room for a lot of nostalgia in the book, I did not want to do a book of menus that only had us looking backwards, I wanted to do a book of menus that helped us to look at ourselves now, and to help us look at the city we want to become.





# Young Literati Toast the Los Angeles Public Library

On Saturday, March 28, the Young Literati gathered at the LINE Hotel for the Seventh Annual Toast, which featured a rousing line-up of Los Angeles-inspired readings and performances by actor **Colin Hanks**, actress **Gillian Jacobs**, comedian **Jason Mantzoukas**, DJ/producer **Ali Shaheed Muhammad**, filmmaker **Jason Reitman**, actress **Jenny Slate**, and actress

**Mae Whitman**, along with the night’s host **Busy Philipps**, GRAMMY-winning L.A. band **La Santa Cecilia**, and DJ sets by artist and activist **Shepard Fairey** and **Dean Hata**. Guests also enjoyed a menu of POT and Commissary signature dishes curated by **Roy Choi**.

This special evening celebrating L.A.’s best and brightest raised funds for the Los Angeles Public Library’s Full STEAM Ahead program—a series of fun, integrated science, technology, engineering, art, and math workshops and events that spark the imagination, inspire, and motivate children, teens, and adults through hands-on learning.



La Santa Cecilia performs



Patrons Tatiana Small and LFLA Board Member Darren Jackson with guests



Honorary Host Riki Lindhome, LFLA supporter Luvh Rahke, Ghazal Moshfegh, guest, and host Busy Philipps



Ali Shaheed Muhammad reads a Russell Charles Leong poem



Performer Colin Hanks and Young Literati Honorary Chair Samantha Hanks



The LINE Hotel



Performers Mae Whitman and Jason Mantzoukas read a scene from *Heat*, directed by Jason Reitman



Merna Bishouty, Andrew Lojero, Adrian Young, and Sherry Young



Young Literati Seventh Annual Toast performers and leadership



City Librarian John F. Szabo, Young Literati Chair Amanda Fairey, Performer Ali Shaheed Muhammad, and Shepard Fairey



Honorary Host Marc Silverstein, with Young Literati Honorary Chair and Program Host Busy Philipps



Patrons Brooke Rowland and Brendon Cassidy, LFLA Board Member



Toast Patron and Young Literati Ambassador Matt Rising and guests



Curator Roy Choi



LFLA Board Member and Patron Nicole Neeman Brady, patron TJ Brady, and guests from Edison International

# Ozomatli Rocks Summer Fun at the Library

Five years ago, the City of Los Angeles officially declared April 23 as “Ozomatli Day” to commend the homegrown, genre-defying, GRAMMY-winning band. This most recent “Ozomatli Day” was especially significant for the band—they marked their 20th anniversary together making electro-cumbia/garage rock/hip-hop/Pérez Prado mambo infused tunes, and also released a new song and music video celebrating the Los Angeles Public Library’s Summer Fun program.

“We’ve always used this day to raise awareness,” explains Ozomatli guitarist and composer Raúl Pacheco. The socially-conscious band, which formed out of a labor protest and has served as Cultural Ambassadors for the U.S. State Department, holds the Los Angeles Public Library very close to their hearts. Many of the members of Ozomatli grew up visiting their local branches, including Pacheco, who as a native Boyle Heights resident frequents the Robert Louis Stevenson Branch.

Because of their strong ties to the Library and the city—and the fact that they have previously released music for kids—it was a perfect fit for the Library Foundation to ask Ozomatli to compose the first-ever theme song in this program’s 80+ year history. More than 40,000 children and teens across the city are anticipated to take part in the program, formerly called the Summer Reading Clubs.

Providing a crucial out-of-school enrichment program during the summer break, Summer Fun at the Library will offer a range of musically-themed activities,

workshops, performances, reading resources and prizes, in addition to free lunch at select locations. Summer Fun is about flexing your mind, exploring your imagination, and being part of a community of learners. In a city where too many students are reading and writing below grade-level proficiency, this summer enrichment program has become a vital resource to help young people succeed in school.

“The idea of having free access to reading and research materials and to the Internet is super important to our society and to our communities,” says Pacheco about Ozomatli’s interest in the program. With some guidance from the Library Foundation and a team of librarians, Ozomatli created an upbeat, funk-infused original song called “Read to the Rhythm” to inspire young Angelenos to make the Library a recurring destination this summer. They also shot a music video featuring over 100 kids and parents partying at the Central Library. “This project is about reminding people how cool it is to have this place,” says Pacheco. “If people are not integrated into it yet, it’s about making people lifelong fans of the Library.”

As a child, Pacheco says he never imagined he could make a career out of music, but he says, “This band is there for us to fulfill our dreams like libraries are there for kids.” Summer Fun at the Library will take place from June 8 to August 1. For a full schedule of upcoming activities and to watch Ozomatli’s “Read to the Rhythm,” visit [lapl.org/summerreading](http://lapl.org/summerreading).







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.



Judy Blume. Credit: Ellen Schert



Ricardo Diaz



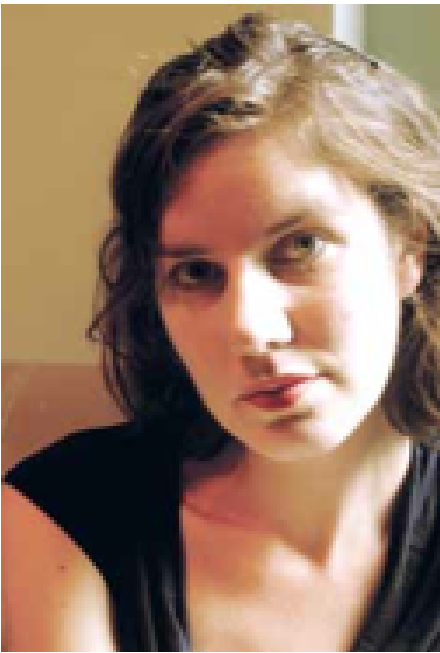
Sholeh Wolpé



Janai Brugger



Ron Finley



Leslie Jamison



Laura Karpman

June

Tuesday, June 9, 7:30 PM

**Aratani Theatre**

*Co-presented with the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center*

**An Evening with Judy Blume**

*In conversation with Alex Cohen, co-host of KPCC's "Take Two"*

On this special evening, one of America's most beloved story-tellers, Judy Blume, will discuss her work — from young adult classics like *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* to her new novel for adults, *In the Unlikely Event*.

The story, inspired by a series of real-life plane crashes that occurred in the 1950s in Blume's hometown of Elizabeth, New Jersey, weaves together three generations of families, friends and strangers, whose lives are profoundly changed by a succession of disasters. This iconic author who has won the hearts and minds of readers of all ages, is also known for her passionate advocacy to protect the freedom to read. She will be joined in conversation with KPCC host and Blume super fan, Alex Cohen. Join us for a night to remember!

**Tickets: LFLA.ORG/ALOUD**

Sunday, June 14, 3:00 PM

**To Live and Dine in L.A.: Menus and the Making of the Modern City**

**Panel Discussion with chefs Ricardo Diaz, Cynthia Hawkins and Joachim Splichal**

*In conversation with Josh Kun, author and professor, USC Annenberg School for Communication*

Can a city's history be told through restaurant menus? In a special collaboration with the Library Foundation to rediscover the Los Angeles Public Library's vast archive, USC professor Josh Kun uses the Library's menu collection to explore the shaping of Los Angeles, from the city's first restaurants in the 1850s up through the most recent food revolutions. Join him for a multimedia tour of the L.A. menu paired with a conversation on L.A. food past and present with chefs Ricardo Diaz (Colonia Publica), Cynthia Hawkins (Hawkins House of Burgers) and Joachim Splichal (Patina Group).

Presented as part of *To Live and Dine in L.A.: Menus from the Collection of the Los Angeles Public Library*

Tuesday, June 30, 7:15 PM

**Song of Myself: Walt Whitman in Other Words**

**Readings and Conversation with Luis Alberto Ambroggio, Christopher Merrill, and Sholeh Wolpé**

*Musical performance by Sahba Motallebi*

With all of its American idioms, virtues, and contradictions, what is it about Walt Whitman's epic verse "Song of Myself" that so deeply resonates across other cultures and languages? In 2013, Christopher Merrill, the director of the International Writing Program at The University of Iowa, launched "Every Atom," a multimedia project to collectively translate the poem in 15 languages, working with fellow poets and translators Luis Alberto Ambroggio and Sholeh Wolpé. Join us for a spirited evening of poetry and music, featuring a performance by internationally renowned musician Sahba Motallebi, as these collaborators explore how Whitman's radical poetic vision lives and breathes in English, Persian, and Spanish.

Thursday, July 9, 7:15 PM

**Love, Los Angeles: A Conversation in Words and Images**

**Lynell George and Marisela Norte**  
*Live DJ mix by Frosty of dublab*

"Love, Los Angeles" is a letter in progress—a series of notes, fragments, reflections and odes—written by two native daughters navigating the quickly-changing landscape of contemporary Los Angeles. Through photographs and texts, journalist and essayist Lynell George and writer Marisela Norte have tunneled on foot from Boyle Heights to Venice and the Miracle Mile to Arcadia, crisscrossing time, place, dreams, and memory. Share in these in-the-moment observations of hope, grit, faith and longing as they are presented for the first time on stage, and eavesdrop on this intimate look into the heart of our city.

Tuesday, July 14, 7:15 PM

**To Live and Eat in L.A.: Food Justice in the Age of the Foodie**

**Panel Discussion with Ron Finley, Elizabeth Medrano and Neelam Sharma**

*In conversation with Josh Kun, author and professor, USC Annenberg School for Communication*

The L.A. food scene is as trendy, tweeted, pop-upped, and profit-busting as it's ever been, and yet more people are going hungry at a greater rate than perhaps any other moment in the city's history. As the USDA has declared, Los Angeles is the nation's "epicenter of hunger," where the phrase "food insecurity"—lacking reliable access to nutritious and safe food—has become as much a part of the local vernacular for activists and organizers as sunshine and traffic. In a special collaboration with the Library Foundation to rediscover the Los Angeles Public Library's vast archive, USC professor Josh Kun uses the Library's menu collection to explore the shaping of Los Angeles. With vintage menus as our guides, join Kun for a conversation about the struggles and triumphs of contemporary food activism with urban gardener Ron Finley, the Healthy School Food Coalition's Elizabeth Medrano and Community Services Unlimited Inc.'s Neelam Sharma.

Presented as part of *To Live and Dine in L.A.: Menus from the Collection of the Los Angeles Public Library*

Thursday, July 23, 7:15 PM

**Unspeakable Empathy**  
**Meghan Daum and Leslie Jamison**

*In conversation with Molly Pulda, Provost's Postdoctoral Scholar in the Humanities, USC*

Leslie Jamison's critically acclaimed collection of essays *The Empathy Exams* confronts our personal and cultural urgency to feel. In her collection, *The Unspeakable*, *Los Angeles Times* opinion columnist Meghan Daum defiantly pushes back against the false sentimentality and shrink-wrapped platitudes that surround so much of contemporary American experience. With piercing insight and wit, hear from two of today's most thought-provoking and intimately honest essayists, grappling with the modern complexities of being human.

Wednesday, July 29, 7:15 PM

**Langston Hughes' Ask Your Mama: 12 Moods for Jazz**

**Laura Karpman**

*With performance by Janai Brugger (soprano), Victoria Kirsch (piano), Taura Stinson (voice) and David Young (bass)*

From Africa to the Americas, the south to the north, cities to suburbs, opera to jazz, gospel to be-bop, and "shadows to fire"—discover "Ask Your Mama: 12 Moods for Jazz," Hughes' response to the riots at the 1960 Newport Jazz Festival. Emmy Award-winning composer Laura Karpman, originally commissioned by Carnegie Hall to create the first vocal performance of Hughes' poem, created an orchestral composition with plural voices including Hughes' projected images, and recorded selections drawn from a dozen musical traditions, in an epic tapestry evoking the turbulent flux of American cultural life. This special presentation of "Ask Your Mama" adapted for the ALOUD stage, featuring Karpman and soprano Janai Brugger, marks the release of a new recording of the orchestral work.

INFORMATION

MORE INFORMATION ON ALOUD

[lfla.org/aloud](http://lfla.org/aloud)  
(or 213.292.6254)  
[f ALOUDla](#)  
[t @ALOUDla](#)  
[@ALOUDla](#)

RESERVATION POLICY

Reservations are strongly recommended. As the majority of ALOUD programs are free of charge, it is our policy to overbook. In the case of a full program, your reservation may not guarantee admission. We recommend arriving early. Space permitting, unclaimed reservations are released at 7:00 PM to standby patrons. Standby numbers are distributed for free programs one hour prior to start time.

*Assistive Listening Devices available*

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.

SUPPORT ALOUD

To support programs made possible by the Library Foundation, call 213.228.7500 or visit [lfla.org](http://lfla.org)

CENTRAL LIBRARY HOURS

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Sunday: 1:00 – 5:00 PM

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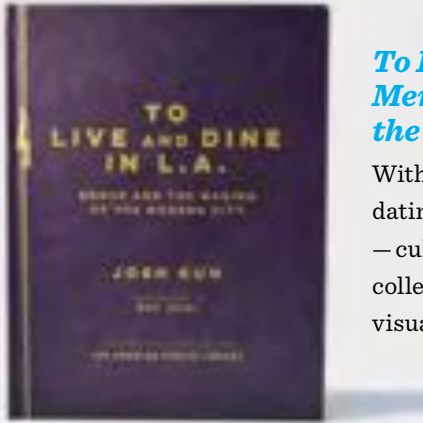
WEEKLY



# The Library Store Celebrates Foodies with *To Live and Dine in L.A.*

Stop by and pick up the perfect menu related gift!  
Or, if you can't make it downtown to our shop in the beautiful Central Library, check out The Library Store On Wheels' schedule for a stop near you!

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To place an order call: 213.228.7550 Or visit us online: [lfla.org/store](http://lfla.org/store)



**To Live and Dine in L.A.: Menus and the Making of the Modern City by Josh Kun**

With more than 200 menus — some dating back to the nineteenth century — culled from thousands in the Library's collection, *To Live and Dine in L.A.* is a visual feast of a book.

\$45




**To Live and Dine in L.A. Bib**

The perfect accessory for the infant foodie.

\$12

**Recipe Dice**

Go on a culinary adventure with 12 dice with more than 60 vegetables, grains, meats, spices, and herbs to craft a delicious and new meal every time.




\$20

**Guest Check Tea Towel**

This 100% cotton tea towel speaks to the age-old question the home cook asks, "Whaddya think this is, a restaurant?"



\$12



**Menu Collection Cork Coaster Set**

Specially made to accompany *To Live and Dine in L.A.*, this set of 6 coasters will keep your favorite furniture watermark-free.

\$13.95




**Street Food Journal**

Organized from A to Z, this journal is set up to explore the world of street food through 26 illustrations and a few whimsical facts and anecdotes.

\$12.95

**Rise and Shine Play Set**

Eggs, bacon, toast, oh my! This play set is perfect for toddlers to practice abstract thinking and their social interactions.



\$28

**Menu Mash Up**

The food game with all the ingredients for fun!



\$22.95

# Live from the Library

## Bashing for Books

On Saturday, April 18, the downtown Central Library opened its doors after hours to Library Foundation Members and participating authors of the Los Angeles Times Festival Books for the fourth annual Book Drop Bash. Celebrating the literary life of our city, the Bash featured a legendary book swap, live DJ, photo booth fun, a taco bar, and drinks provided by Tito's Handmade Vodka, Angel City Brewery, Dark Horse Wines, and Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf.

As the official after party of the Los Angeles Times Book Prizes, many honorees took part, including actor and author LeVar Burton, who received the Innovator's Award for hosting television's *Reading Rainbow*, which he turned into an app and produced as a tool for at-risk kids. Author T.C. Boyle, who served as an honorary host of the Book Drop Bash, was awarded the Robert Kirsch Award for lifetime achievement for writers of the West.

The Book Drop Bash is a signature benefit for all Members of the Library Foundation. Thank you to all the supporters who attended! To learn more about Membership with the Library Foundation, please contact Membership Director Megan Hamilton at 213.292.6242 or [meganhamilton@lfla.org](mailto:meganhamilton@lfla.org).



Library Foundation of Los Angeles

[ALoud]

Highlights from the ALoud spring season



Dancer, choreographer, and director Bill T. Jones treated ALoud guests to a conversation and special performance



Musician Ana Tijoux and Cristóbal Perez perform live for the ALoud audience



Economist Joseph Stiglitz in conversation with journalist Jim Newton

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

The Council

Highlights from The Council's spring season



Alison Petrocelli and guests enjoy a program with author Rafael Yglesias



Ambassador Christopher Hill discusses his book *Outpost: Life on the Lines of American Diplomacy*



Council Members Mary Lu Tuthill, Gabrielle Davis, and Carla Sands



**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.

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*Support free access to information and the civic, cultural, and educational core of our community.*

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and strengthen the Los Angeles Public Library!**

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