Winter 2017 – 2018 News and Calendar
“Proceeds support the library’s cultural and educational programs, while participation fulfills your earnest desire to never leave the house. That’s right — the genius of this bookish event is that you don’t actually have to go anywhere. Finally, an event that honors introversion, social anxiety and bibliomaniac. Everyone wins!” — Los Angeles Times, 2017

Quick Hits

“Programs like ALOUD examine how we think about where we’re going in a century that is reshaping everything from the movies we make to the art and literature we hold up as emblematic.” — Los Angeles Times, 2017

“I’ve always loved libraries and I think they are magical places. The idea of a library is so powerful because it’s about access to information. Libraries give us a range of opinions and a range of perspectives.” — Alan Alda

“Nothing has moved me more than the entries in the exhibition’s puzzle book. I like to think that while those patrons are visiting the Central Library, they are checking out a book, using the free state-of-the-art technology, or to research employment opportunities, they are also discovering something new about themselves or the past. Here is just a small sample:

• “I lose myself in my work, it reaches my soul and fills it with pride and love for all my people, the people, those who stand up each day to face the unknown.”

• “Communities supporting and engaging together in a positive, uplifting manner, is not only beneficial to all families, but a beautiful expression of love and compassion. Great and wonderful exhibit.”

• “Gracias... Art in the universal language. Please keep this conversation going. We need it more than ever.”

Ken Brecher
President

The murals are part of the Library Foundation’s project, Visualizing Language: Oaxaca in L.A. For more information turn to page 5.
It’s a Wonderful Film: Lost & Found Movie Recs

The holidays are upon us and for many that’s prime movie-watching season, so we checked in with John Nein, the curator of the Library Foundation’s Lost & Found at the Movies, for some unexpected alternatives to A Wonderful Life. Here, Nein shares some of his all-time favorite films to shake-up your traditional holiday viewing plans.

John Landis, A Man of Many Genres: “When you hear Landis talk about cinema, his influences upon many genres and his passion for that perspective order of movies, it is no surprise that he took us back to his childhood watching The 7Th Voyage of Sinbad, admiring the film for its spectacular quality and its monstrosity and the work of Ray Harryhausen—an auteur in his own right.”

Tabitha Jackson and Sam Green on Hybrid Non-Fiction: “At the ‘Doc Art Mix Tape’ event, we explored the broad range of artful, formally innovative non-fiction films from Errol Morris and Werner Herzog to the current Golden Age of creative non-fiction, we had no end of options like The Act of Killing, Leviathan, Capturing Couture, but we settled on two top picks: Raoul Peck’s astounding film about James Baldwin, Life of an American Negro, and Shirley Clarke’s Portrait of Jason, which was restored and released in a beautiful new Warren verson a couple years ago.”

Edward James Olmos on Latino Cinema: “As we talked through some wonderful examples of Spanish-language films made by Hollywood studios during the early days of talking pictures (notably, descargar se no puede [Insure Your Wife]), Olmos impressed the audience to watch a rarely seen documentary called Los pequenitos gigantes [Huge Babies]. This national hybrid film tells the story of an underdog little league baseball team from Inmigrant-Photo-Mexico that came to the 1957 Little League World Series in the U.S. and—against all odds—won the championship. Olmos recalled seeing the film as a kid growing up in East L.A., and how it warms his heart even now. ‘I really identified with the love of kids who could identify with it.’”

Miguel Arcega on the Cutout Costumes: “Another question during ‘The Dinner Game’ asked guests for the favorite ‘meet cute’ moment—their love story. This was totally adorable! The moment involved a guy who was showing a dress to a girl and then realized it was the same dress the girl had worn. ‘We should have been a couple,’ said the guy.”

Shakespeare on Film with Alfred Molina: “This program yielded unexpected discoveries like the British film Institute’s recently released Play On, a new version of Stableford’s Shakespeare films, to the 19583 dinner (img Max Reinhardt’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream, to creative adaptations like Benjaimar and Goldminers Are Dead: The Dream, and Basil Dearden’s Othello inspired Night Long) Not against the 1950s London jury. But the revelation was Orion Wolfe’s Chinese at Midnight—at last last subdived from decades of obscurity by Criterion. Collection in a beautifully re-mastered version. A true masterpiece, the film pulls from various Mental Ploy to construct a wonderfully cinematic, profoundly moving portrait of Prince Hal.”

The Great Experiment Dinner: “And of course, for ‘The Dinner Game’ we couldn’t help but acknowledge the great films with great dinner scenes like The Celebration, Bastille, Babette’s Feast, and The Cook, the Thief, His Wife & Her Lover. But topping the list of dinner scenes would have to be Los Buddis’ satirical, surrealistic masterpiece The Extravagant Angel, in which the hapless bourgeois dinner guests find themselves inexplicably unable to leave the mansion of their host... for days.”

The 7th Voyage of Sinbad: “Butler, 1960). This unusual hybrid film tells the story of Ray Harryhausen—an auteur in his own right.”

“The murals offer a rich sense of place — not Los Angeles or Tlacolulco but a hybrid urban location representing elements from both cultures.” —Deborah Vankin, Los Angeles Times

Visualizing Language Transforms Central Library

Behind-the-Scenes with Curator Amanda de la Garza Mata

Following the opening of Visualizing Language, we caught up with the exhibition curator, Amanda de la Garza Mata, who also serves as an adjunct curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) in Mexico City. De la Garza Mata has previously curated a show with Tlacolulokos in Mexico, but Visualizing Language marks their first collaboration in the States—a boundary-pushing project three years in the making.

After months and months of preparation, what was it like for the exhibition to finally open to the public?

De la Garza Mata: “The works are really engaging with the people who go to the Library—and not just necessarily to see the murals, but all the Library users who may encounter the murals by chance. People see themselves in the murals and feel empathy for the struggles the murals represent in relation to migration and other aspects of migrant communities.”

Part of Tlacolulokos’ objectives as artists is to promote empowerment, which directly connects to the mission of the public library. How is this reflected through the murals?

De la Garza Mata: “The artists understand the importance of the circulation of knowledge as a form of empowerment people. One of the most important of the mural undertakes how important it is to understand you come from and how sometimes your cultural identity can be taken from you.

How do you think this project has re-imagined the role of public art?

De la Garza Mata: “The Rotunda’s Dean Cornell mural embraced a very official telling of the history of colonization. The Tlacolulokos murals depict a very different history—history from a community whose voice has never been heard in this way before. They’re not trying to represent a unified history anywhere everyone feels attached to it or represented by it. Now in the Rotunda, you can see the differences between how people are portrayed in these two distinct mural—like women or Indigenous people, and that is the turning point in terms of public art—the possibility of art that does not reproduce an ‘official’ narrative around history or identity.”

Project Catalogue Now Available
Visit shop.lfla.org to purchase a bilingual catalogue of this historic exhibition from The Library Store, or check it out from the Los Angeles Public Library.

Visualizing Language: Oaxaca to Los Angeles

“...it’s a boring tale right out of the space.”

“...it’s a boring tale right out of the space.”

Major support for Visualizing Language: Oaxaca to L.A. is provided through grants from the Getty Foundation. Additional support provided by California Humanities and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.
The Library Store 2017 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.

**Our national's criminal justice system today—and California in particular—is facing one of the worst crimes of all time—both in terms of prison conditions and the vast number of people being locked up. How did we get to this point?** Historian Heather Ann Thompson, winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize, will visit ALOUD this winter to share from Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy, which chronicles the atrocities that led to 1,300 prisoners taking over the upstate New York correctional facility and how the state violently retook the prison—killing thirty-nine men and severly wounding more than a hundred others. Her engaging work examines the long-term implications of how this notorious prison riot was handled and offers new proof that the state of New York purposely concealed evidence and misrepresented the facts of the case to the public. We spoke to Thompson about the historic consequences of Attica's narrative and why transparency in our prisons is more important than ever.

"It's always interesting to hear about an author's research, but yours in especially important as the research itself became a crucial part of the story. Can you talk about this process?"

**Thompson:** Virtually all of the files I wanted to see were either non-disclosable or had been moved to an off-site facility, and officially you could get them through the Freedom of Information Act, which I certainly tried to do, but the state [of New York] had absolutely no interest in providing public access to the story. I had to come at the story upside down, from the side, and backwards so that I could reconstruct what had happened. It was a journey that took me 13 years.

It was ultimately possible to tell the story from a combination of reconstructing an archive from disparate and unexpected sources, but also relying heavily on the survivors of Attica, as well as the judge, and lawyers, and reporters to share their stories with me. Ultimately, I could not have told the smoking gun part of this story—I would not have known this was really a story of actual cover-up—had I not happened upon a whole cache of records [at the Erie County courthouse in Buffalo, New York]; but I don't think the state of New York knew it was there.

Many individuals suffered tremendously from this cover-up, but what were the bigger historical consequences of this one falsely presented story?**

**Thompson:** The micro answer is about the people who are most directly impacted by Attica. It destroyed lives quite literally. The macro cost of getting history wrong was devastating for all of us—for the nation. There was an entire generation of voters who in 1972 had been quite sympathetic to the idea of prison reform. As a country, we had turned against the death penalty and we had decided that prisons were too aggressive and brutal and large and we needed to think about community corrections.

Because we were told what had happened at Attica was that the prisoners had killed the hostages and that the prisoners had committed all of the harms—all of those horrific lies were printed on the front pages of The New York Times, The L.A. Times, over the AP and in every small-town newspaper in America—the nation was sold a false bill of goods and became punitive. Politicians started using Attica as a symbolic way to get tougher on crime policy. Of course it turns out that the violence of Attica was because law enforcement was out of control, but we didn’t get that narrative and the national consequences have been devastating.

Recently at ALOUD, we’ve heard from other authors like Danielle Allen and James Foreman, Jr. who are also confronting the failures of the criminal justice system and the culture of secrecy around prisons. With more public discourse around these issues, do you think we’re at a tipping point for change?**

**Thompson:** I am privileged to be part of this new wave of folks who are relentlessly and unapologetically talking about the fact that we have a crisis in our criminal justice system. Many people are working very hard to understand how we got here and to rally for something quite different. We are being pushed and driven and informed by formerly incarcerated folks themselves. This is a crisis we know about because people on the inside are witnessing it every day. For me, I feel hopeful, but I’m also deeply cautious because I know that we have zero transparency in our nation’s prisons.

It sounds like for you there’s a direct connection between transparency and change?**

**Thompson:** Absolutely. The whole thrust of Blood in the Water is we have to look inside those institutions because the people inside of them—no matter what they did to get there—they remain human beings. The story of Attica is fundamentally a story about humanizing the new more than 2.5 million people who are locked up in America or the 7.5 million under correctional control.

It’s imperative to listen to prisoners.

Winter ALOUD Preview: Heather Ann Thompson

**On Your Bookshelf**

*Blood in the Water: The Attica Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy*  
Heather Ann Thompson  
In conversation with Professor Kelly Gate Mordecan, Director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

**Reservations:** lfla.org/aloud

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 7:30 PM**

**Blood in the Water: The Attica Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy**  
Heather Ann Thompson

On Your Bookshelf

*Whose Detroit?*  
Professor Kelly Gate Mordecan, Director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

**Reservations:** lfla.org/aloud

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 7:30 PM**

**Blood in the Water: The Attica Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy**  
Heather Ann Thompson

On Your Bookshelf

*Whose Detroit?*  
Professor Kelly Gate Mordecan, Director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

**Reservations:** lfla.org/aloud

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 7:30 PM**

**Blood in the Water: The Attica Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy**  
Heather Ann Thompson

On Your Bookshelf

*Whose Detroit?*  
Professor Kelly Gate Mordecan, Director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

**Reservations:** lfla.org/aloud
**The Library Foundation Calendar Winter 2018**

**Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy**

**American Inferno: Haiku in Zapotec: From Oaxaca to Japan and Back**

**The Strange Order of Things: Life, Feeling, and the Making of Cultures**

**The Line Becomes a River**

**Exiled from Cairo: Humor as Dissent**

**The Monk of Mokha**

**Hands-on Oaxacan Cooking with Soledad Lopez**

**Build-A-Lotería**

**Save the Date! 30th Annual Stay Home & Read a Book Ball**

**TUES, JANUARY 23, 7:30 PM**

American Inferno: Haiku in Zapotec: From Oaxaca to Japan and Back

Jane Hirshfield and Victor Terán

In conversation with translator and poet David Shook

From Japan to Oaxaca, two poets find commonalities in the beauty of poetry from worlds apart

**TUES, FEBRUARY 6, 7:30 PM**

The Strange Order of Things: Life, Feeling, and the Making of Cultures

Antonio Damasio

In conversation with Manual Castilla, University Professor, USA

A prescient neuroscientist discusses the origins of life, mind, and culture

**TUES, FEBRUARY 13, 7:30 PM**

The Monk of Mokha

Dave Eggers and Mokhtar Alkhanshali

In conversation

An acclaimed author joins the Yemeni-American subject of his fascinating new work about a passion for coffee roasting and the tragic war in Yemen

**THURS, FEBRUARY 21, 7:30 PM**

The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border

Francisco Cantú

In conversation with independent journalist Ramona Giwadi

An award-winning writer and former agent for the United States Border Patrol speaks to the devastation the border wreaks on both sides

**SAT, JANUARY 6, 2:00 PM**

Build-A-Lotería

A family-friendly, multilingual writing workshop with Zapotec poet Pergentino José, where participants will have the opportunity to assemble their own homemade lotería (bingo) cards in the Sierra Zapotec language

**TUES, JANUARY 23, 7:30 PM**

American Inferno: Haiku in Zapotec: From Oaxaca to Japan and Back

Jane Hirshfield and Victor Terán

In conversation with translator and poet David Shook

From Japan to Oaxaca, two poets find commonalities in the beauty of poetry from worlds apart

**TUES, FEBRUARY 6, 7:30 PM**

The Strange Order of Things: Life, Feeling, and the Making of Cultures

Antonio Damasio

In conversation with Manual Castilla, University Professor, USA

A prescient neuroscientist discusses the origins of life, mind, and culture

**TUES, FEBRUARY 13, 7:30 PM**

The Monk of Mokha

Dave Eggers and Mokhtar Alkhanshali

In conversation

An acclaimed author joins the Yemeni-American subject of his fascinating new work about a passion for coffee roasting and the tragic war in Yemen

**THURS, FEBRUARY 21, 7:30 PM**

The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border

Francisco Cantú

In conversation with independent journalist Ramona Giwadi

An award-winning writer and former agent for the United States Border Patrol speaks to the devastation the border wreaks on both sides

**SAT, JANUARY 6, 2:00 PM**

Build-A-Lotería

A family-friendly, multilingual writing workshop with Zapotec poet Pergentino José, where participants will have the opportunity to assemble their own homemade lotería (bingo) cards in the Sierra Zapotec language

**For more information on these programs, book signings, and book purchases**

ALOUD:

lfla.org/aloud

or 213.292.6242

Free/Reservations recommended.

**Additional support provided by**

The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

**ALOUD thanks its generous sponsors**

The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

The City Foundation

The Los Angeles Public Library

**ALOUD thanks its generous sponsors**

The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

The City Foundation

The Los Angeles Public Library

**For more information on these programs, book signings, and book purchases**

ALOUD:

lfla.org/aloud

or 213.292.6242

Free/Reservations recommended.

**General Programs:**

lfla.org/calendar

or 213.292.6242

Programs are subject to change.

**Part of Public Events:**

Standard Time: LA/LA

These programs will be offered as bilingual/multilingual.

**Location**

Unless otherwise indicated, program takes place at:

**Richard J. Riordan Central Library**

510 S Flower St., Los Angeles, CA 90071

**Winter 2017 – 2018 213.228.7500 lfla.org 98**
The Literary Feasts Celebrate 20th Anniversary

"The Literary Feasts are the Council of the Library Foundation’s signature event and the most extraordinary evening—there’s nothing else like it," says Literary Feasts Chair Betty Applebaum. The truly unique nature of the Feasts involves the orchestration of 50 simultaneous dinners in beautiful homes across Los Angeles. Hosts generously open their doors to dedicated patrons who dine with iconic authors, all in support of the Los Angeles Public Library.

This year’s 20th anniversary event took place on November 6 and was especially inspiring because of its record-breaking levels of support. More Council members than ever participated on the committee, and to date the event has raised over $1.46 million in funds for the Los Angeles Public Library. Authors included political columnist Maureen Dowd, New York Times bestseller Michael Connelly, trailblazing filmmaker Nancy Meyers, Pulitzer Prize winner Viet Thanh Nguyen, Nobel Laureate Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn, and many more.

Bringing together such a passionate community of Library supporters has motivated Applebaum’s work over the years—this was her third time chairing the Feasts and she has long been an enthusiastic member and leader of The Council. “I hope that every single person who attended the Feasts came away with a new awareness for the importance of the Library,” she explains.

The 2017 Literary Feasts supported the Library’s educational programs focusing on children, teens, technology, and adult literacy. Thank you to the generosity of everyone who took part, including these major supporters: Judith Krantz, the Annenberg Foundation, the Flora L. Thornton Foundation, the Herb Albert Foundation, the Annenberg Foundation, Judith & Thomas Beckmen, Nancy Donovan Bergin, Sharon & Nelson Rising, Tawny & Jerry Sanders, and Marma & Rockwell Schnabel.

“The Literary Feasts are The Council of the Library Foundation’s signature event and the most extraordinary evening—there’s nothing else like it,” says Literary Feasts Chair Betty Applebaum. The truly unique nature of the Feasts involves the orchestration of 50 simultaneous dinners in beautiful homes across Los Angeles. Hosts generously open their doors to dedicated patrons who dine with iconic authors, all in support of the Los Angeles Public Library.

This year’s 20th anniversary event took place on November 6 and was especially inspiring because of its record-breaking levels of support. More Council members than ever participated on the committee, and to date the event has raised over $1.46 million in funds for the Los Angeles Public Library. Authors included political columnist Maureen Dowd, New York Times bestseller Michael Connelly, trailblazing filmmaker Nancy Meyers, Pulitzer Prize winner Viet Thanh Nguyen, Nobel Laureate Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn, and many more.

Bringing together such a passionate community of Library supporters has motivated Applebaum’s work over the years—this was her third time chairing the Feasts and she has long been an enthusiastic member and leader of The Council. “I hope that every single person who attended the Feasts came away with a new awareness for the importance of the Library,” she explains.

The 2017 Literary Feasts supported the Library’s educational programs focusing on children, teens, technology, and adult literacy. Thank you to the generosity of everyone who took part, including these major supporters: Judith Krantz, the Annenberg Foundation, the Flora L. Thornton Foundation, the Herb Albert Foundation, the Annenberg Foundation, Judith & Thomas Beckmen, Nancy Donovan Bergin, Sharon & Nelson Rising, Tawny & Jerry Sanders, and Marma & Rockwell Schnabel.

The 2017 Literary Feasts supported the Library’s educational programs focusing on children, teens, technology, and adult literacy. Thank you to the generosity of everyone who took part, including these major supporters: Judith Krantz, the Annenberg Foundation, the Flora L. Thornton Foundation, the Herb Albert Foundation, the Annenberg Foundation, Judith & Thomas Beckmen, Nancy Donovan Bergin, Sharon & Nelson Rising, Tawny & Jerry Sanders, and Marma & Rockwell Schnabel.
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.

The Library Foundation's federal tax identification number is 95-4368250.

Year-end Giving

Include the Library Foundation in your year-end giving plans! Here are five easy ways to support your Library before the end of the year:

1. **Give the gift of Membership**
   Consider sharing your support for the Library with a gift Membership! Your meaningful contribution will be an investment toward protecting equal access to information, and funding the thousands of life-changing programs and services provided at the Los Angeles Public Library to millions of children, teens, and adults.

2. **Upgrade your Membership to double your impact**
   It's easy to make a significant difference for millions of Angelenos, while receiving increased Membership benefits!

3. **Make a tax-free year-end donation**
   Support Library programming such as ALOUD, Live Homework Help and Adult Literacy.

4. **Gift appreciated stock or mutual funds**
   This is the perfect time to show your support for the Library by making a gift of your appreciated stock or mutual funds! Maximize your charitable contribution while achieving the most effective means of tax savings before the end of the year.

5. **Make a distribution from your Individual Retirement Account**
   If you are 70 1/2 or older, up to $100,000 can be distributed tax-free from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to support the Library!

Gifts can be sent to:
Library Foundation of Los Angeles
630 W. Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071

To make your year-end gifts, learn more about the benefits of Membership, or join today, visit [lfla.org/membership](http://lfla.org/membership) or call 213.292.6242.