

Ed Ruscha
Hollywood Is A Verb, 1979
pastel on paper, 23 × 29 inches, (D1979.06)

LOS ANGELES TACKLES THE
OXFORD
ENGLISH DICTIONARY



Letter from the President

If you are reading this letter, there's a good chance you are a Library Foundation Member, or a patron who picked this publication up in your neighborhood library. In either case, I hope you were interested in this newsletter in part because of the striking cover. By questioning the conventions of language and highlighting its endless adaptability, Ed Ruscha's uniquely Californian artwork is the perfect icon to represent the Library Foundation's latest project, *Hollywood Is a Verb: Los Angeles Tackles the Oxford English Dictionary*. We are so grateful to Mr. Ruscha and to The Broad Art Foundation for generously allowing us use of this image.

Hollywood Is a Verb is the third in a series of projects in which the Library Foundation of Los Angeles examines a classic text through a Southern California lens. Previous iterations included *Whatever Happened to Moby Dick?* and *The L.A. Odyssey Project*. Each includes a wide range of programs and activities aimed at exploring the connections between literature, history, language, science, the humanities, and of course, what it means to be an Angeleno. I look forward to these projects each year because they are beautiful examples of how the Los Angeles Public Library connects patrons to the major issues of our time simply by revisiting the books we know and love.

This year, we thought we were taking a risk in choosing a dictionary as a candidate for recounting timeless stories. But in fact, the *OED* — in its last print edition — represents 20 volumes of storytelling about the history of the language one word at a time. Indeed, the *Oxford English Dictionary* is the earliest example of global crowd-sourcing: a word can only officially be entered by demonstrating consistent usage across place and time.

There is so much to be mined from the *Oxford English Dictionary*. For example, we've found that the closer we look, the more we notice how the English language is actually made up of loanwords: words adopted from other languages that are incorporated without translation (examples: café, kindergarten, bazaar). Dictionaries have the power to mirror social change and help multicultural communities such as ours find common ground. The *Oxford English Dictionary* reveals the true nature of English as a cross-pollinated language. As such, we are proud to be presenting "A Very L.A. Spelling Bee/Concurso de deletreo súper LA": a Spanish-and-English-language spelling bee, featuring simultaneous live interpretation, on March 19th.

Read on to learn more about the project, and visit our calendar on page 8 for a full listing of activities available to you during the month of March.

Ken Brecher
President

Quick Hits

As we spend the month of March celebrating the fundamental importance of language—both in Southern California and beyond—and the ever-evolving influence of the *Oxford English Dictionary* (*OED*), here are a few fun facts about the varied ways we are using dictionaries today.

The *Los Angeles Times* is cited 190 times as the first venue in which a new word or usage is recorded in the *OED*.

Did you know

that all Los Angeles Public Library cardholders have free access to the online *OED*? No matter where you are in the city, the state, or the world at large, visit lapl.org for access.

“The English language is nobody’s special property. It is the property of the imagination: it is the property of the language itself.”

—Poet Derek Walcott

The Los Angeles Public Library’s International Languages Department

houses dictionaries, phrase books, easy readers, and language learning materials in more than 500 languages.

The collection includes:

- Languages with unique alphabets, such as Armenian and Georgian
- American Indian languages, such as Cherokee and Navajo
- Asian languages, such as Hindi and Urdu
- African languages, such as Swahili and Igbo
- Pacific Island languages, such as Hawaiian and Maori

The International Languages department also houses materials to learn English — print, audio, and video — with explanations in the users’ own native languages, as well as multilingual materials for citizenship preparation. The popular language learning programs are Pimsleur, Living Language and Berlitz, as well as the online databases Mongo and Powerspeak.

The *OED* is an unsurpassed guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of 600,000 words, supported by 3 million quotations, and over 1,000 years of English — past and present — from across the English-speaking world. Updated every three months, the *OED* was first conceived in 1847, but the first edition was not completed until 1928. It is published by the Oxford University Press.

Californian, adj. and n.

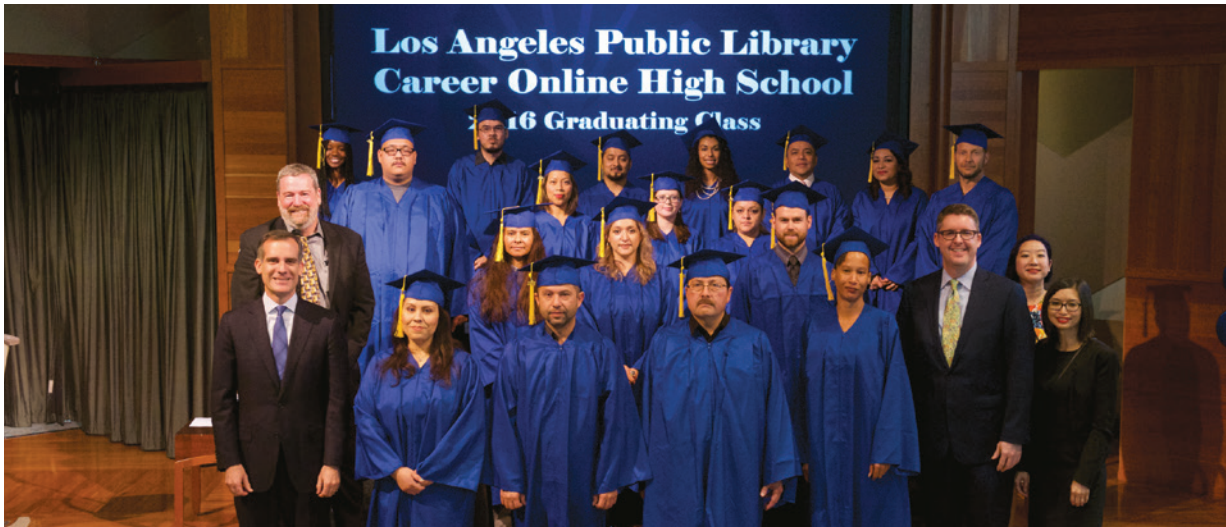
Pronunciation: /kælɪˈfɔːniən/

Etymology: < California n.A. adj.

Of or belonging to, native or peculiar to, California; esp. in the names of species of birds, beasts, and plants.

Head of the Class

With record-breaking numbers of programs, participants, and a rising Membership, the Library Foundation saw unprecedented levels of success last year—including the support of an innovative educational pilot program now expanding across the country.



On a Tuesday morning this past January, Central Library’s Taper Auditorium filled with the flashes of cameras, the uplifting swell of “Pomp and Circumstance,” and a royal blue tide of caps and gowns. But this was not your typical graduation ceremony.

“This is a city of second chances—Los Angeles defines itself that way. We are not a city that cares where you come from, or where your parents come from, or what your first language was, the color of your skin, your gender,” said Mayor Eric Garcetti addressing the first class of 28 graduates from the Los Angeles Public Library’s pioneering Career Online High School. “What we care about is your dreams and what you want to accomplish in life. You’ve already shown yourself to be people who embrace the idea of a second chance. This library system was there at the right moment to be the enabler of your hard work. We opened the door up, but you today have walked through that door,” said the Mayor.

Mayor Eric Garcetti’s Advice to Graduates:

- 1. Be fearless
- 2. Be humble
- 3. Learn how to listen
- 4. Lead with love

In an effort to address the spreading epidemic of high school dropouts—nearly 40 million adults across the country and half of the adult population in L.A.—the Library teamed up with Career Online High School, an 18-credit, career-based high school completion program designed to prepare students for the workforce. This first-ever collaboration between an accredited online program and a public library offers adult learners better access to a flexible, supportive environment for completing their degree.

“This program is the dramatic and powerful example of how the Library is all about lifelong learning and empowerment and how public libraries can play a very important role in the workforce and economic development,” said City Librarian John Szabo at the graduation ceremony.

Since kicking off in March 2014, over 150 students have enrolled in the program. “It’s beneficial for numerous reasons—from helping students go on to college programs, apply for scholarships, get promotions at current jobs, or learn new skills for their careers—we’ve witnessed how it can provide new opportunities and instill a feeling of accomplishment and self-worth in the participants,” explained Brian Cunningham, librarian and project coordinator for Career Online High School.

Through the help of the Library Foundation, every student accepted to the program receives a grant to cover his or her studies. Antoine Merritt, one of the graduates, had struggled to find an affordable, accredited program that could accommodate his work schedule. “I was promised a promotion at work into a new department once I showed them that I was committed to my education and completed college coursework,” said Merritt, who after finishing his online high school degree in September 2014 was greenlighted to begin training in his new department while pursuing a degree in electronics at Pierce College. He’s also become an ambassador for the Library’s program—his niece just began working on her high school degree last month. “This program is changing my whole family’s life and giving us tools to help us grow and thrive,” he said.

Gina Ruiz—the grandmother of a current high school student—has been an office manager for over 20 years, and between work and family never had the time to complete her degree. “There was always this barrier of not having the diploma. It kept me from certain promotions, attending college, and applying for scholarships,” Ruiz explained. After completing the program last August, she’s now enrolled at Northeastern University College of Professional Studies and hopes to go on to receive her Master’s degree and a Ph.D. The Library’s support of Ruiz’s education has continued beyond Career Online High School. A teacher from the program along with Cunningham wrote Ruiz letters of recommendation and she recently received a scholarship for college. Also, she has learned how to use other Library resources for her college research papers.

The program serves a wide range of student needs. David Villena, originally from Mexico City, graduated from high school there, but when he moved to the U.S. in 2000, he could not find a program that would allow him to transfer

“If it were not for the Library, I wouldn’t have gotten my high school diploma—I would have just let it go. It has given me the confidence that I was lacking because I was missing a big part of my educational goals.”

—Angie Velasquez,
graduate of Career Online High School



his coursework and complete a full high school degree. On a visit to his neighborhood library, he learned about Career Online High School. “What else could I ask for? It was love at first sight,” said Villena, who completed his degree last April. Villena credits the Library’s encouragement as laying the foundation for taking future steps in his education. “An overall benefit of taking this online program is the fact that I came into contact with a new way to learn—that has given me a new tool to approach other online courses.”

The program is also now being modeled at 49 other libraries across this country and is expanding across the state. “We’re honored that the program that we helped design has been implemented at so many other library systems, continuing its impact. In fact, I’m currently mentoring 12 other library systems throughout the state as they work on rolling out Career Online High School later this year,” says Candice Mack, the interim principal librarian of Young Adult Services and project manager of Career Online High School.

Beyond the successful implementation of this forward-thinking pilot program, this past year has stood out as a banner year for the Library Foundation—from growing the Cybernaut program and updating Student Zones across the city, to engaging thousands of Angelenos in dialogue with luminary figures like Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz, and beloved storyteller Judy Blume at ALOUD. As you look through the following pages of the newsletter, you’ll see an exciting breakdown of the Foundation’s 2014-2015 Fiscal Year activities, and how we are ensuring the Los Angeles Public Library thrives in the present, and for generations to come.

Year in Review

Between July 2014 and June 2015, the Library Foundation expanded its support of the enrichment, educational, and cultural programs across all 73 Los Angeles Public Libraries, offered free of charge to millions of adults, teens, and children.

HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

STUDENT SMART

4,140

teens at **57** branches prepared for college through free workshops and PSAT, SAT, and ACT practice exams. **↑70%**

CHILDREN AND TEEN SUMMER READING CLUBS

27,231

children and teens participated in enrichment programs through their summer break.

GRAMMY-winning band **Ozomatli** released the first-ever theme song and video in this program's 80+ year history.

GIVING BACK

MEMBERSHIP

Throughout the Fiscal Year 2014-2015, **3,700** Library Foundation Members raised

over \$500,000

to transform the Los Angeles Public Library. **↑23%**

STUDENT ZONES

29,117

students provided dedicated space, materials, and in-person assistance to complete homework assignments at **28** branches.

LIVE HOMEWORK HELP

38,807

individual online tutoring sessions took place last year. **↑31%**

WE READ TOGETHER

123,935

adults and children participated in pre-literacy workshops and story-times. **↑44%**

THE STAY HOME AND READ A BOOK BALL

With the help of **Chair Junot Díaz**, the coziest fundraiser of the year raised

\$109,656

in March 2015 – a new high for the campaign.

ENGAGING THE IMAGINATION

ALoud AT CENTRAL LIBRARY

10,962

people attended **51** stimulating conversations and performances.

2,361

attended special off-site programs throughout the city, featuring **Colm Tóibín** and **Rachel Kushner**, **Carlos Santana**, **Patton Oswalt**, **David Alexrod**, and **Judy Blume**.

Program podcasts and videos were downloaded

175,719

times. As of July 2015, the ALoud Vimeo Channel included **104** archival videos. **↑40%**

DIGITIZATION

The Library's Collections were accessed more than

800,000

times online.

LITERATURE THROUGH AN L.A. LENS

The Odyssey Project presented more than **70** events that took place in libraries and cultural institutions across the city.

LOST & FOUND AT THE MOVIES

In its second year, the series celebrated the vitality of film culture with the legendary **Buck Henry**, film critic **Kenneth Turan**, Academy Award-winning filmmaker **Pawel Pawlikowski**, and more.

EXPLORING THE COLLECTIONS

To Live and Dine in L.A. highlighted the Library's collection of more than

9,000

menus

With a book and exhibit at the Central Library that was visited more than

20,000

times, over **100** programs occurred at **25** branches.

YOUNG LITERATI

285

Young Literati Members

The 2015 Annual Toast in March raised nearly **\$75,000** for Full STEAM Ahead programming and included the largest-ever single gift to an Annual Toast.

The inaugural, wildly successful Young Literati Family Day in February engaged our youngest library supporters with games, face painting, and storytime with comedian and actor **Paul Scheer**.

FOURTH ANNUAL BOOK DROP BASH

Became the official after-party of the **Los Angeles Times Book Prizes** at Central Library, exclusively for Library Foundation Members and Los Angeles Times Festival of Books authors.

INVESTING IN LIFELONG LEARNING

ADULT LITERACY SERVICES

20,163

adults at **21** literacy centers worked with tutors and attended classes. **↑52%**

HEALTH MATTERS

21,461

patrons received resources, knowledge, and guidance on health-related topics.

CYBERNAUTS

75,000

patrons received computer assistance and were taught to use the Library's electronic resources, create email accounts, and complete job applications.

FULL STEAM AHEAD

18,558

children, teens, and adults participated in free science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM)-related programs and workshops at 24 target branches. Expanded from a pilot program at 13 branches to fully fledged at 50+ branches.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE

In June, First Lady Michelle Obama presented the Los Angeles Public Library with the nation's highest honor given each year to five libraries and five museums for service to the community.

“We won the Oscars of libraries!”

—Mayor Eric Garcetti

LFLA.ORG

The Library Foundation launched a new website over the summer, making it easier than ever before to get involved in our work to benefit the Library.

Financials

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

	UNRESTRICTED				
	UNDESIGNATED	BOARD DIRECTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
OPERATING ACTIVITY: SUPPORT AND REVENUE					
Contributions	\$1,328,848	\$-	\$3,378,907	\$702,412	\$5,410,167
Fund-raising events – net of direct expenses of \$188,688	545,343	-	128,940	-	674,283
Store revenues, net of discounts	544,290	-	-	-	544,290
	2,418,481	-	3,507,847	702,412	6,628,740
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTION/DESIGNATION					
Endowment appropriations	1,038,180	(466,045)	(572,135)	-	-
Satisfaction of donor intent	3,315,453	-	(3,315,453)	-	-
	4,353,633	(466,045)	(3,887,588)	-	-
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	6,772,114	(466,045)	(379,741)	702,412	6,628,740
EXPENSES					
Program Services					
Investing in Lifelong Learning	1,889,770				1,889,770
Engaging the Imagination	1,704,060				1,704,060
Helping Students Succeed	1,245,097				1,245,097
Library Store	583,914				583,914
Total Program Services	5,422,841				5,422,841
Supporting Services					
General and administrative	543,660				543,660
Fund-raising	892,027				892,027
Total Supporting Services	1,435,687				1,435,687
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,858,528				6,858,528
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	(86,414)	(466,045)	(379,741)	702,412	(229,788)
NONOPERATING ACTIVITY					
Interest and dividends	78,634	239,558	253,913		572,105
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(47,702)	(116,330)	(135,011)		(299,043)
Change in value of charitable remainder trusts	-	-	(17,371)		(17,371)
	30,932	123,228	101,531		255,691
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(55,482)	(342,817)	(278,210)	702,412	25,903
BEGINNING NET ASSETS	1,921,836	17,013,501	9,988,246	10,736,301	39,659,884
ENDING NET ASSETS	\$1,866,354	\$16,670,684	\$9,710,036	\$11,438,713	\$39,685,787

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2014
Cash and cash equivalents	\$922,100	\$751,095
Investments	37,313,067	37,051,011
Pledges receivable	1,139,843	1,750,024
Library store inventory	95,831	117,608
Property and equipment, net	217,208	86,814
Interests in charitable remainder trusts	446,842	464,213
Other assets	31,390	53,708
TOTAL ASSETS	\$40,166,281	\$40,274,473

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$130	\$470
Accrued expenses	90,422	86,619
Deferred revenue	389,942	527,500
	480,494	614,589

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted

Available for general operations	1,866,354	1,921,836
Board-directed endowment	16,670,684	17,013,501
	18,537,038	18,935,337

Temporarily restricted

Specific purpose	3,168,174	3,286,609
Endowment	6,541,862	6,701,637
	9,710,036	9,988,246

Permanently restricted – endowment

	11,438,713	10,736,301
--	------------	------------

TOTAL NET ASSETS	39,685,787	39,659,884
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$40,166,281	\$40,274,473

REVENUE AMOUNT

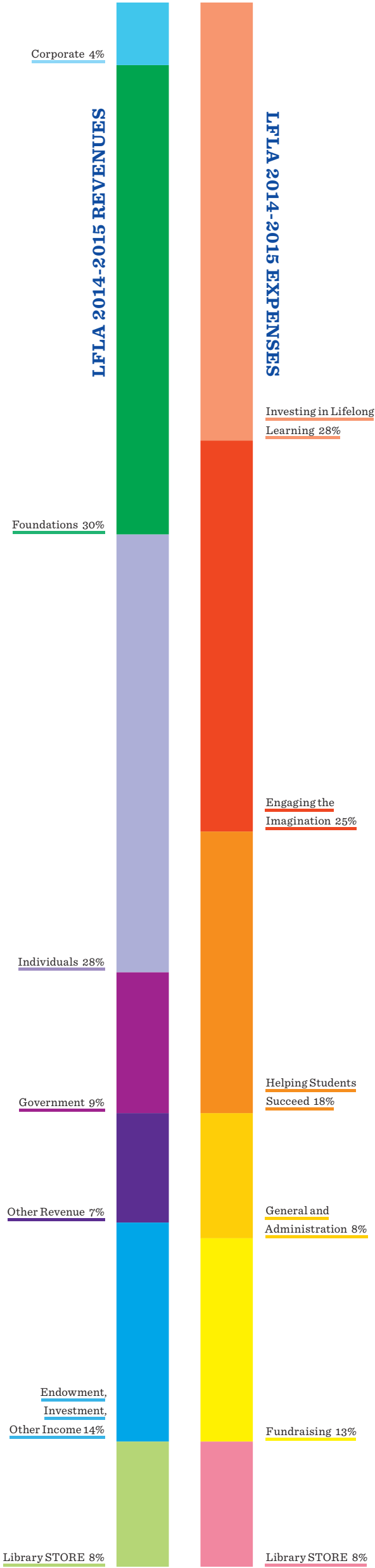
REVENUE	Amount	%
Corporate	\$287,200	4%
Foundations	\$2,088,645	30%
Individuals	\$1,913,225	28%
Government	\$644,046	9%
Other Revenue	\$448,921	7%
Revenue Subtotal	\$5,382,037	78%
Endowment, Investment, Other Income	\$958,104	14%
Library STORE	\$544,290	8%
Grand Total Revenue	\$6,884,431	100%

EXPENSE AMOUNT

EXPENSES	Amount	%
Investing in Lifelong Learning	\$1,889,770	28%
Engaging the Imagination	\$1,704,060	25%
Helping Students Succeed	\$1,245,097	18%
General and Administration	\$543,660	8%
Fundraising	\$892,027	13%
Library STORE	\$583,914	8%
Total Expenses	\$6,858,528	100%

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Increase in Net Assets	\$25,903
% of Library Foundation's Net Assets	0.07%



Hollywood Is a Verb

Los Angeles Tackles the *Oxford English Dictionary*

In the third installment of a city-wide project to reconsider classic texts through a contemporary Southern California lens, the Library Foundation and the Los Angeles Public Library will celebrate the power of language by taking on the wordiest, most epic, essential, and mother of all books—the *Oxford English Dictionary* (*OED*). Throughout March, over 60+ programs at 13 branch libraries across the city will engage Angelenos through conversations and events to illuminate how dictionaries enrich our lives today (check the calendar on pgs. 8-9 for details.)

The *Oxford English Dictionary*: A Great Read in Alphabetical Order and Otherwise

By Edward Finegan

“Don’t you love the Oxford Dictionary?” David Bowie exclaimed to an interviewer in 1999. Then, in tribute, he added, “When I first read it, I thought it was a really really long poem about everything.” The *OED* is really long. And it is about everything—everything with a name. Nor is it a stretch to regard it as poetic: for one thing, its most frequently cited source of illustrative quotations is Shakespeare. While David Bowie may not have read the entire *OED*, a former furniture mover named Ammon Shea has read it all, and judged it “a great read.” In its 21,730 pages he found all “the human emotions and experiences ... just as they would be in any fine work of literature,” but, he said, in the *OED* those emotions and experiences “just happen to be alphabetized.”¹ Perhaps Bowie and Shea suffered from—or were blessed with—a form of onomatomania.

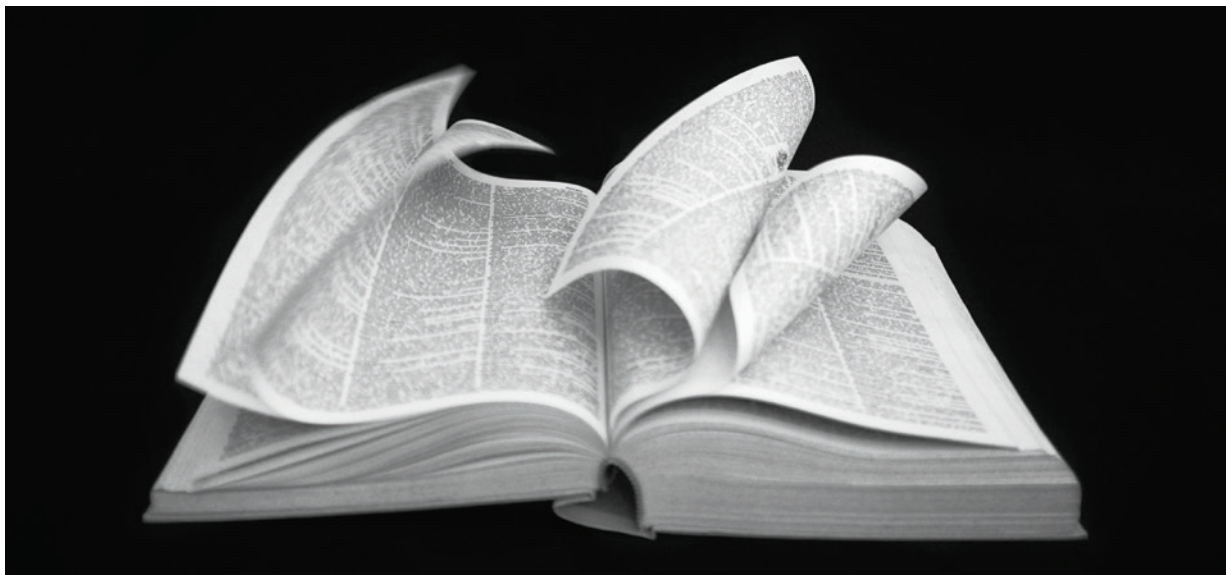
Other “onomatomaniacs” regularly grab the headlines. News outlets run stories about the word of the year—WOTY—chosen by one organization or another. Members of the American Dialect Society recently anointed *they* as 2015 WOTY. An 800-year-old pronoun, its striking service as a gender-neutral *singular* pronoun for a known person—a substitute for the gendered pronouns *he* and *she*—captured the admiration of language scholars. If dictionaries are alphabetical listings of *words*, we might ask what range of expressions are eligible to enter the *Oxford English Dictionary*. To address that question, let’s look at the most recent updates.

“Besides simple words like *they*, the American Dialect Society accepts compounds and phrases, even hashtags and emojis, as WOTY candidates. Last year the hashtag *#blacklivesmatter* won the vote, and two years earlier the compound word *hashtag* won.”

About 500 revisions were announced late in 2015. Words like *improvisor*, *locavore*, *phablet*, *subcommittee*, and *truther* were added, along with the compounds *firepit*, *attack ad*, *bankroller*, *commitment ceremony* and *commitment ring*, *exit interview* and *exit polling*, *fire hydrant* and *fire sale*, *granny chic* and *granny gear*, *improvised explosive device*, *location scout*, *strength training*, and *true believer*. Among the phrases added were *to fight fire with fire* and *to be firing on all cylinders*. Some additions capture new English, expressions appearing only recently in print: *locavore*, in 2005; *phablet*, in 2010. *Truther* may seem fresh, but it’s over a century old. Not all announced revisions represent innovation, then. *Bankroller* dates to 1930; *improvisor* to 1830; *firepit* to 1500. For a surprising number of additions, the *OED* is catching up. Even the grandest dictionaries are linguistic laggards, not leaders.

You may wonder how editors decide what gets into the *OED*—and when. Well, for all of today’s computing power and

Beyond providing us a system for naming, ordering, and comprehending words, the *OED* also tells the story of how language adapts and changes over time. In a specially commissioned essay, USC Professor of Linguistics and Law Edward Finegan takes us through the meticulous, yet highly democratic process of how the *OED* is edited, evolves, and embodies a living, breathing community of words.



electronically available language materials, lexicography remains a human enterprise. The *OED* is a historical dictionary, endeavoring to document the development of all English words from their beginnings to the present day. When the project was conceived in the nineteenth century, its visionaries couldn’t grasp the labor and time their “New English Dictionary” would require. The first published segment, letters “A” to “Ant,” appeared in 1884, and by the time the final segment appeared in 1928, words at the head of the alphabet were outdated—or missing. Changed by World War I, the English-speaking world and its dictionary needed to reflect a new reality (military and war terms; cultural terms).

To help create the first *OED*, volunteer readers around the world submitted slips of paper with illustrative quotations typically containing a sentence with a single underlined word. The same practice—relying now on submissions via the Internet—provides an authoritative basis for *OED* definitions, and anyone can furnish quotations to meet editors’ calls. Contributors tackle newspapers and diaries; specialist magazines (treating, say, jazz or pop culture) and journals (treating, say, medicine); cook books and movie scripts.

Like other dictionary makers, the *OED* editors also troll through other dictionaries—such as the *Dictionary of American Regional English*—to identify overlooked words. As well, the vast resources of the Internet help identify words and senses and provide illustrative quotations. In fact, the primary data upon which the *OED* relies in its definitions are quotations. Our inquiries of any online dictionary—

“Omissions also needed repair. Appendicitis first appeared in print in 1886 but was excluded as erudite and rare. When in 1902 the coronation of Edward VII was postponed to accommodate his appendicitis, British subjects were left to wonder what on earth that was.”

the words we type into its search engine—can provide a heads-up about words missing from the dictionary, and editors can then seek published examples of them.

Over its lifetime English has borrowed tens of thousands of words from scores of languages, and readers of the online *OED* can discover that among the many words borrowed from American or Mexican Spanish are *hoosegow*, *abalone*, *Apache*, *chilli*, *charro*, *Chicano* and *Chicana*, *coyote*, *gringo*, and *stampede*. Given the prominence of the Latin majority in Los Angeles, it’s no accident that the Spanish word *quinceañera* first appeared in a Van Nuys English-language newspaper (in 1972). Los Angeles also has a significant Persian-speaking community, and directly or through an intermediate language Persian has contributed words, including *ayatollah*, *baksheesh*, *bazaar*, *caravan*, *cummerbund*, *dervish*, *dinar*, *divan*, *khaki*, *kiosk*, *lavash*, *pashmina*, *satrap*, *seersucker*, *shah*, *sherbet*, *taffeta*, and *turban*. English has also borrowed from Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, Hebrew, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Latin, the Philippine languages, and Turkish, as well as French, German, Italian, and others. Coming from Hawaiian is *wiki* (shortened from *wikiwiki* ‘quick quick’), while borrowed directly or indirectly from Native American languages are *hickory*, *hominy*, *moccasin*, *skunk*, *sockeye*, *tepee*, *toboggan*, *tomahawk*, *wickiup*, *woodchuck*, and place names like *Illinois*, *Oklahoma*, and *Malibu*.

To represent a living language in a vibrant world-wide multi-culture demands a dynamic dictionary. With announcements every three months of revisions to a third edition, the *Oxford English Dictionary* puts its vitality and continuing relevance to the English-speaking world on full display.

Visit lfla.org/oed to read the full essay, along with all the details of Hollywood Is a Verb: Los Angeles Tackles the Oxford English Dictionary.

Or join the conversation on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook with [#dictionaryLA](https://twitter.com/dictionaryLA)

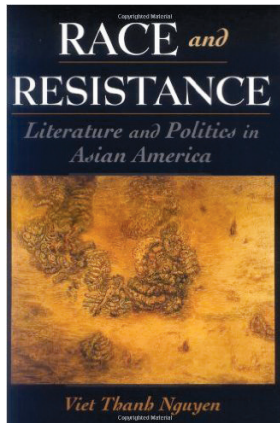
**Hollywood Is a Verb support provided by:
WHH Foundation
Skoll Foundation
Participant Media**

1 *Reading the OED: One Man, One Year, 21,730 Pages* (2008)

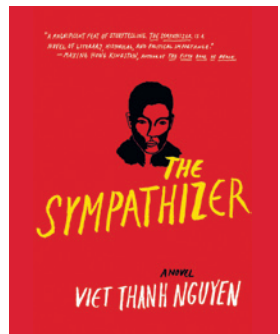
ALoud Spring Preview: Viet Thanh Nguyen

On Your Bookshelf

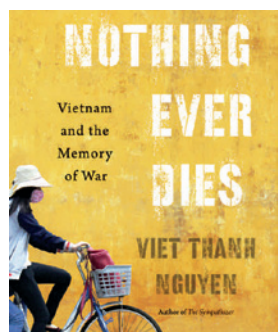
— Viet Thanh Nguyen



Nguyen argues that Asian American intellectuals have idealized Asian America, ignoring its saturation with capitalist practices.



Profound, startling, and beautifully crafted, *The Sympathizer* is the story of a man of two minds, someone whose political beliefs clash with his individual loyalties.



A searching exploration of the conflict Americans call the Vietnam War and Vietnamese call the American War—a conflict that lives on in the collective memory of both nations.

**TUESDAY, MAY 24
7:15 PM**

**Two Writers
Reflect on War
and Peace**

**Maxine Hong
Kingston and
Viet Thanh
Nguyen**

**Reservations
Recommended.
Visit lfla.org/aloud for
more details**

“I am a spy, a sleeper, a spook, a man of two faces. Perhaps not surprisingly, I am also a man of two minds. I am not some misunderstood mutant from a comic book or a horror movie, although some have treated me as such. I am simply able to see any issue from both sides,” begins Viet Thanh Nguyen’s debut novel, *The Sympathizer*. Nguyen understands a lot about navigating dual worlds. Born in Vietnam, he came to the United States as a refugee in 1975 with his family. *The Sympathizer*—which topped over 30 book-of-the-year lists for 2015 and won the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction—is set during the aftermath of the fall of Saigon and follows an undercover communist agent posing as a captain in the Southern Vietnamese Army. Nguyen, an associate professor of English and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California, is deeply interested in illuminating the Vietnamese perspective of a war that has been mostly told through an American voice. Beyond teaching and exploring these themes through fiction, he is also the author of two works of nonfiction: *Race and Resistance: Literature and Politics in Asian America*, and *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War*, which will be published this April. Before sharing the ALoud stage this spring with his mentor Maxine Hong Kingston, we asked Nguyen about the challenges of confronting history through storytelling.

What first made you want to write about Vietnam?

Nguyen: I read and watched a great deal of American literature and film about the Vietnam War as I was growing up. By the time I entered college, I knew that one of the signal features of this body of work was that it did not include many meaningful roles for Vietnamese people. In other words, what Americans called the Vietnam War was really, for them, an American war. The Vietnamese were unimportant except as the backdrop for a civil war in the American soul, where Americans fought Americans. I found that deeply insulting and troubling, given that this was a war fought in Vietnam that had cost 3 million Vietnamese lives (compared to 58,000 American ones). In effect, this was a war where, for the first time in history, the losers got to write the history of the war for the world. I was determined to both insert Vietnamese perspectives into this distorted American narrative and to challenge the assumptions of American culture as well.

How has your perspective on the history of this war evolved over the course of your writing?

Nguyen: At first, I thought that what I wanted to do was to tell Vietnamese stories and fill in the gaps of American stories about the Vietnam War, Vietnam, and Vietnamese people. Eventually I realized that this was a limited and mistaken ambition. The Vietnam War was not only set in Vietnam, and did not only involve Vietnamese and Americans. Both Vietnam and America prefer to remember the war in that way because it contains the meanings of the war, and because it allows for a neat possibility of reconciliation between us-and-them. In reality, it was a regional and global war that pulled in Laos and Cambodia and many other countries that provided troops, bases, and contractors. It was a war that began well before American involvement and lasted well after Americans left. It cost 3 million Laotian and Cambodian lives as a direct consequence of Vietnamese and American actions. Although my novel doesn’t really deal with this, my nonfiction work, *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War*, explores Laos and Cambodia as well as South Korea. South Korea was poorer than South Vietnam in the 1960s, but used American payments for its

troops and chaebol (Hyundai, Daewoo, and the like) to begin its transformation into a global power. All this is part of the history of the Vietnam War as a total war that many would rather forget, or know nothing about.

What are the differences for you in exploring this war through fiction versus nonfiction? What have you learned from each creative endeavor?

Nguyen: In fiction, I can say all kinds of things that would be hard for me to say in nonfiction. In nonfiction, I need footnotes and documentation to support even the smallest claim. In fiction, I can say the most provocative things and leave them there for the reader to confront. That’s very liberating. Still, my fiction is deeply informed by the years of research I did for my nonfiction, both in terms of concrete work on Southeast Asian and American memories, and in terms of the theoretical thinking I did about memory, ethics, inhumanity, and representation. All those ideas that are implicit in my fiction, helping me immeasurably to make certain kinds of aesthetic decisions, are explicit in my nonfiction.

My nonfiction was shaped by my fiction, too. I took everything I had learned about narrative, characterization, plot, rhythm, and style and brought it into writing my nonfiction, which is infused with the emotion, passion, and intuition that are key to fiction. I mean for *The Sympathizer* and *Nothing Ever Dies* to be read side by side as the fictional and scholarly bookends of a critical project about our capacity to be both human and inhuman at the same time.

At ALoud, you’ll be in conversation with the masterful Maxine Hong Kingston. What’s your relationship to Maxine and how has her writing influenced you? What do you look forward to speaking with her about?

Nguyen: Maxine was my first creative writing instructor in college. I applied for her nonfiction writing seminar and was admitted along with thirteen other students. Either she has forgotten or she has charitably never mentioned it to me, but I was a terrible student. I would fall asleep every single day in class, even when I was sitting only a couple of feet away from her. Eventually I realized I needed to inject myself with caffeine immediately before and during class. At the end of the semester, she wrote me a note and recommended that I seek help from the university’s excellent counseling services, as I seemed deeply alienated. She was most likely right. I mention this to point out that college students shouldn’t always be judged too harshly. I look the other way on the occasions when students fall asleep in my class. I have faith that teaching can have long-term consequences on students who may not even be cognizant of it at the time.

In Maxine’s case, I have found her work to be persistently powerful even though in college I found it somewhat bewildering. I use *The Woman Warrior* every time I teach an Asian American literature course and think that it is an important template for ethical storytelling. I cite that and *China Men’s* “The Brother in Vietnam” and *The Fifth Book of Peace* in my forthcoming *Nothing Ever Dies*, because throughout these works there is a consistent critique of power and an idealistic demand for peace that sets a high mark for any writer and critic who deals with war. In Maxine’s writing there is an awareness that war is always a total experience, one that works through the complicity of the people, not just the actions of soldiers, generals, and politicians. I want to talk to her about what it means to be a writer and an activist; how to think through the specific



“Libraries are the great repository of uncomfortable ideas, and I benefitted from the freedom to roam and expose myself to them.”

—Viet Thanh Nguyen

demands of a piece of writing while also thinking globally; and how to work at the seam of art and politics in an American publishing and writing world where that conjunction is often devalued.

As a writer, scholar, and critic, you conduct a lot of research. How have libraries shaped your work and inspired a love for books?

Nguyen: The San Jose Public Library system was my second home as a child, particularly the Main Library (now called the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library). My refugee parents worked 12 to 14 hour days, seven days a week, and I saw little of them. I heard even less, as they were too tired to talk to me and my native tongue had withered to almost nothing. I had adopted English and took great comfort in it. I spent hours in the library and by ten years of age was taking the bus to and from home to the library by myself every weekend. I read everything there, including things I shouldn’t have. I read above my age level, from *All Quiet on the Western Front* when I was in the sixth grade, to Larry Heinemann’s brutal Vietnam War novel *Close Quarters* when I was an adolescent. Scenes from that book scarred my memory. I hated that book until I had to write my own novel and realized that Heinemann was right—if you are dealing with atrocity, then don’t editorialize, don’t sentimentalize. Make the reader feel the hurt. Make the comfortable uncomfortable. Libraries are the great repository of uncomfortable ideas, and I benefitted from the freedom to roam and expose myself to them.


When it came to my own novel, I made great use of the Los Angeles Central Library’s resources. There were books on the fall of Saigon, on the making of *Apocalypse Now*, on the landscape and cultures of the Philippines, and on tourism in Southeast Asia—few of which were available in my university’s library. That research fed two of the more memorable set pieces in the novel, the opening that depicts the fall of Saigon and a long passage later on that deals with the making of a fictional Vietnam War film epic in the Philippines. How was I to know that the set dresser on *Apocalypse Now* dug up real corpses to decorate a scene (or so it was rumored)? That’s the kind of stuff I found in the library.

The Library Foundation Calendar Spring 2016

March

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 7:30 PM
HAMMER MUSEUM

**Connecting the Dots:
Making Meaning
of the World**
**James Gleick and
Lera Boroditsky**
In conversation with Margaret Wertheim



SUNDAY, MARCH 6

**Stay Home and
Read a Book Ball**

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 7:30 PM
HAMMER MUSEUM

**Strange Sounds from
the Bookshelf**
*An OED-inspired concert with works
by Nico Muhly, Anne LeBaron, and
Scott Worthington*



THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 7:15 PM

Co-presented with Clockshop

**Radio Imagination:
Octavia E. Butler's
Los Angeles**
**Panel Discussion with
Ben Caldwell,
Ayana A. H. Jamieson,
Douglas Kearney, and
Nisi Shawl**
*In conversation with author Tisa Bryant
with DJ Lynnée Denise*

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1:00 PM
HAMMER MUSEUM

**Libros Schmibros
Book Club**
**Reading Ammon Shea's
Reading the OED: One Man,
One Year, 21,730 Pages**



TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 7:15 PM

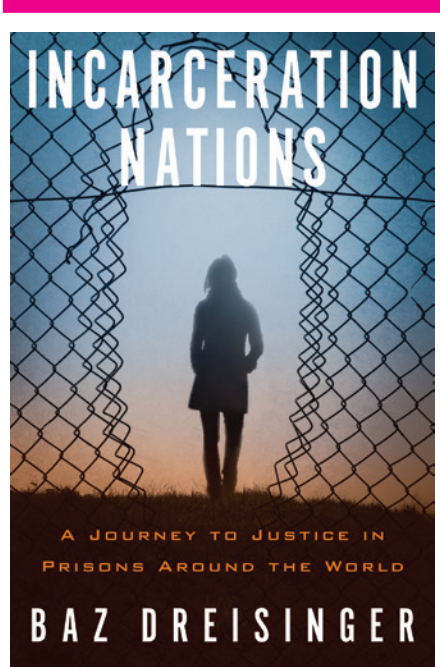
**Empire of Words:
An Unsentimental Journey to
the Birth of the OED**
**Jamaica Kincaid and
Sarah Ogilvie**
In conversation

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 7:15 PM

**When Women Win:
EMILY's List and the Rise of
Women in American Politics**
Ellen R. Malcolm
*In conversation with journalist
Ann Friedman*

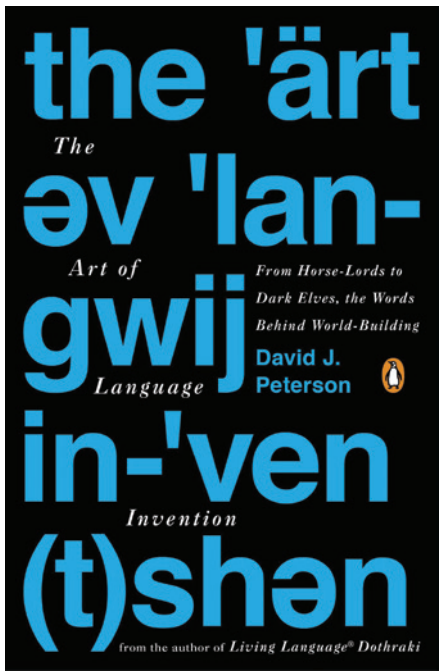
SATURDAY, MARCH 19

**A Very L.A.
Spelling Bee/
Concurso de deletreo
súper L.A.**
*An unprecedented dual-language English
and Spanish spelling bee/
Un concurso de deletreo en inglés y español
sin precedentes*



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 7:15 PM

**Incarceration Nations:
A Journey to Justice in
Prisons Around the World**
Baz Dreisinger
*In conversation with Scott Budnick,
president, Anti-Recidivism Coalition*



TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 7:30 PM

**Lost and Found at the Movies
From the Valley
to Valyria:
Word and World
Building in Hollywood**

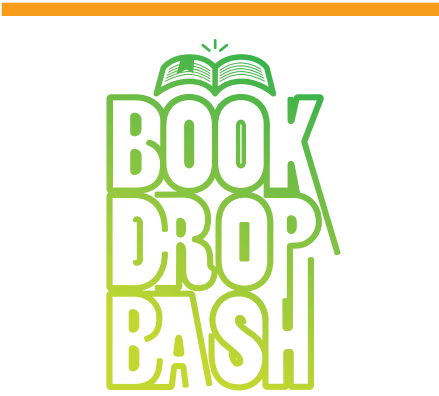


MONDAY, APRIL 4, 7:15 PM

H is for Hawk
Helen Macdonald
*In conversation with Louise Steinman,
curator, ALOUD*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 7:15 PM

**At The Existentialist Café:
Freedom, Being and
Apricot Cocktails**
Sarah Bakewell
In conversation with author David L. Ulin



SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Book Drop Bash
*The official after-party of the
Los Angeles Times Book Prizes*

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 7:15 PM

**Dictionaries and the
Bending of Language**
**John McWhorter and
Mark Z. Danielewski**
*In conversation with screenwriter and
USC film professor, Howard A. Rodman*

ALOUD thanks its media sponsors



LAWEEKLY

KUSC.org
CLASSICAL | fm 91.5

Smart in your world®
Arent Fox

The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation



May

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 7:15 PM

Spain In Our Hearts:
Americans in the Spanish Civil
War, 1936-1939

Adam Hochschild

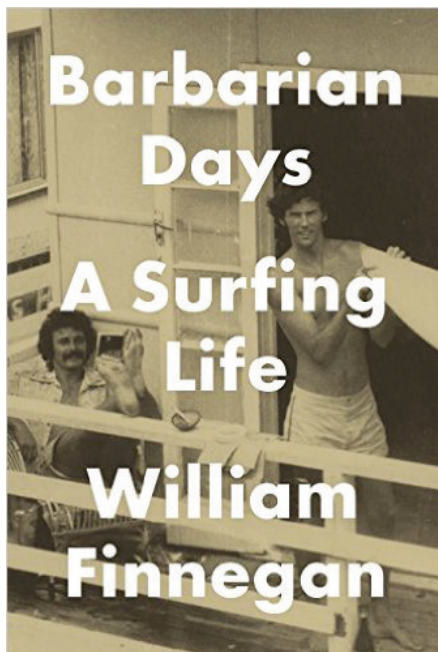
In conversation with historian Jon Wiener

MONDAY, MAY 2, 7:15 PM

Writing Our Future

Readings from
Graduate Writing Programs
of the Southland

*With students from
CalArts, Otis, UCI, UCR, USC*



THURSDAY, MAY 19, 7:15 PM

Barbarian Days:
A Surfing Life

William Finnegan

In conversation with author David Rensin

This spring, we present programs from
the following departments:

Library
Foundation
of Los Angeles

[ALoud]

Library
Foundation
of Los Angeles

Membership

Library
Foundation
of Los Angeles

The Council

Library
Foundation
of Los Angeles

Special
Projects

Library
Foundation
of Los Angeles

The
Library
Store

The Library Store On Wheels events

3/6 @ LA Zine Fest
3/12 @Bookfest Grand Park
3/19 @ Fig Jam
3/20 @ Artist & Fleas
3/25 @ Burbank Ladies & Gents Night Out
4/9 @ Festival of Books
4/10 @Festival of Books
4/30 is Independent Book Store Day

For more information on
these programs

ALoud:

lfla.org/aloud or 213.292.6254

General Programs:

lfla.org/calendar or 213.292.6242

f LibraryFoundLA
t @LibraryFoundLA
in @LibraryFoundLA

Programs are subject to change.

YL Young Literati cocktails to follow
LC Leadership Circle reception
before program

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

Not printed at City expense

Additional support provided by

Sharon Oxborough
The Estate of Suzanne Aran
Donna and Martin J. Wolff

And individual Library Foundation Members



The Stay Home
and Read a Book Ball™

Live From The Library

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

[ALoud]

Highlights from the ALoud winter season



Patti Smith treats the ALOUD audience to a surprise performance at The Orpheum Theatre after discussing her newest book, *M Train*



Brian Seibert, dance critic for *The New York Times*, and performer Sarah Reich tap dance on the ALOUD stage in celebration of Seibert's book, *What the Eye Hears: A History of Tap Dancing*



Poets and longtime friends Elizabeth Alexander and Kevin Young share a moment after sharing the stage at ALOUD

Credit: Gary Leonard and Sarah Charleton

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

The Council

Highlights from The Council's winter season



Author Lian Dolan and friend of The Council Luanne Wells



Council Members Joan Hotchkis, Susy Niven, Ames Cushing, and Michael Niven



Council President Ellen Lipson and author Jon Meacham

Credit: Ryan Miller/Capture Imaging

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

Membership

Highlights from the Leadership Circle



Leadership Circle Members Dawn Baillie, author Michael Cunningham, June Dowad, and LFLA president Ken Brecher



Leadership Circle Member Ruth Simon and City Librarian John F. Szabo



Leadership Circle Member Laurene Harding Rivas and Young Literati Member Luis Rivas

Credit: Gary Leonard

Library Foundation of Los Angeles

Young Literati

Highlights from the Young Literati's 2nd Annual Family Day



Actor/Comedian Paul Scheer reads aloud to the crowd of excited kids



Library Foundation Board Member Darren Jackson, Tatiana Jackson, and son Miles enjoy the festivities



Young patron Owen gets excited about signing up for his first Library card

Credit: David Marks

Donor Listing

It is with deep appreciation that we recognize donors of \$1,000 or more who made contributions to the Library Foundation of Los Angeles from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. These generous donors are instrumental in helping provide critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library for free programs, resources and services to the nearly 4 million people it serves.

\$100,000 Plus

The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation
The California Wellness Foundation
The Duttonhaver Foundation
Estate of Edward Garcia / Estella Fregoso de Garcia Endowed Fund
Catherine Hutto Gordon/Hutto Patterson Charitable Foundation
Institute of Museum and Library Services
W.M. Keck Foundation
Judith Krantz
Jean Perkins Foundation
RGK Foundation
The Ring Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Maurice Amado Foundation
The Cecile & Fred Bartman Foundation
BCM Foundation
Estate of Muriel P. Bodek
California State Library
Dean Hansell / The Dean Hansell Endowed Fund for Adult Literacy
National Endowment for the Arts
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
The Muriel Pollia Foundation
David and Varda Schriger
Donna Schweers and Thomas C. Geiser
Flora L. Thornton Foundation
WHH Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

The Ahmanson Foundation
The Annenberg Foundation
California Community Foundation
Brendon Cassidy and Brooke Rowland
The Getty Foundation
The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation
Judith Selbst Kamins and Ken Kamins
The Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation
Bowen H. & Janice Arthur McCoy Charitable Foundation
Janice McCoy Miller
MUFG Union Bank, N.A. / Teryl Murabayashi
Mary L. Naff
The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation
O' Melveny and Myers LLP / Mark and Rosa Easton
Participant Productions Foundation / Ann Boyd
The Sidley Austin Foundation / Michael and Sharon Kelley
Skoll Foundation
Walter J. & Holly O. Thomson Foundation
Zegar Family Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

AARP Foundation
The Herb Alpert Foundation
Bob and Melissa Alvarado / CourtCall, LLC
American Library Association
Anonymous
Arent Fox LLP / Debra Albin-Riley
The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc. / Nadia Allaudin
Bank of the West / Allen Kirschenbaum
Lynn A. Booth
The Boudjakdji Foundation
Marcia Caden
Teresa Marie Castelli
Robert Chick and Boni Bryant / Lawyers' Mutual Insurance Company
City National Bank / Gwen Miller
Bob Dawson
The Corwin D. Denney Foundation
The Leonardo DiCaprio Fund
The Walt Disney Company
Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation
Joseph Drown Foundation
Edison International / Nicole Neeman Brady
Elizondo/Campbell Family Foundation
Charles Brewer Fiscus Foundation
Simone Forti
Friends of the Chinatown Library
Friends of the Westwood Library
Doreen and Glenn Gee
The Goldhirsh Foundation
Ronda Gomez-Quifiones
Google Community Grants Fund of Tides Foundation
Mark Handler and Priscilla Hoe
Nancy and Michael Harahan
Hitachi, Ltd. / Matt Yamaguchi
Hollywood Foreign Press Association
Mr. and Mrs. Nikhil Jhaveri
Anne and Franklin Johnson
Estate of Delmer C. Kallberg
Suzanne and Ric Kayne
KPMG LLP / Mark R. Hutchins
Leeba R. Lessin
Ellen and Mark Lipson
Wendy Munger and Leonard Gumport
Dan Murphy Foundation
Mrs. Kenneth T. Norris, Jr.
Pacific Palisades Library Association
Beatrix Finston Padway Charitable Trust

Nina and Leo Pircher / The Lynn Strasburg Miller Endowed Fund
Sandra and Lawrence Post
Princess Cruises Community Foundation / Mona Ehrenreich
Sharon and Nelson Rising
Robert and Ann Ronus
David and Susan Rosenblum
Ambassador and Mrs. Schnabel
Laura and Carlton Seaver
Southern California Gas Company / Sharon Tomkins
Christine Splichal
Marc and Eva Stern
Mary Beth and Hardy Thomas
I.N. and Susanna H. Van Nuys Foundation
Venable Foundation
Dana Wallach and Michael T.M. Jones
Susan S. & Kenneth L. Wallach Foundation
Aviva Wiener and Paulino Fontes
J.C. and Nichelle Wileman
Alyce and Warren B. Williamson

\$5,000 - \$9,999

AEGON Transamerica Foundation
Kelly Anderson
Anonymous (2)
Betsy and Harold Applebaum
Charmaine and Sean Bailey
Clive and Dawn Baillie
The William C. Bannerman Foundation
Judith and John Bedrosian
Norris and Debi Bishton
Chaves Family & Parking Company of America
P.J. and Jim Clark
The Carol and James Collins Foundation
Diane Deshong Family
David Elmore and Donna Tuttle
Max Factor Family Foundation
Joy and Jerry Fein
Blaine and Lynda Fetter
Thomas and Elisabeth Giovine
Capri L. Haga
Mary Ann and Kip Hagopian
Marcy and William Hammerstein
Douglas and Mary Hampson
William H. Hannon Foundation
Janna Bodek Harris and James M. Harris
Diane J. Henderson, M.D.
Hitachi Southern California Regional Community Action Committee
Estate of Elisabeth K. Ittenberg
Darren Jackson and Tatiana Small
Beth and Ken Karmin
Brian and Kristen Kaufman
Sandra Krause and William Fitzgerald
Laemmle Theatres Charitable Foundation
Cara Leonetti Esposito and Joseph Esposito
Gene A. Lucero and Marcia E. Williams
Mary and David Martin
Stephen and Christy McAvoy
Kathleen McCarthy Kostlan and Franklyn Kostlan
Kathleen and Peter McCoy
Celeste Pinto McLain and Thomas McLain
Lisa and Willem Mesdag
Wendy and Barry Meyer
Jarl and Pamela Mohn
Betty and George Nicholaw
Gail and Gerald Oppenheimer / Gerald Oppenheimer Family Foundation
Sharon Oxborough / The Sharon Oxborough Endowed Fund for ALOUD
The Albert Parvin Foundation
Alvaro and Linda Pascotto
Nancy and Larry Pasquali
Susan and Barclay Perry
Photo Friends of LAPL
Renvy Pittman
Lyle and Lisi Poncher
Judith and Frederick Richman
Ricki and Marvin Ring
Richard J. Riordan
Matt Rising
Susan W. Robertson
Gene and Maxine Rosenfeld
Nicole W. and John A. Ruskey
Tawny and Jerry Sanders
Loretta Savery and Alex Black
Claire and Gilbert Shea
Ruth Simon
Joni and Clark Smith
Vickie and Alex Taylor
University of California, Irvine
In Memory of Jessie Thompson Valdez
JoAnne and Johannes Van Tilburg
Nancy Robinson Van Tuyle and D. Martin Watterson, Ph.D.
Hope Warschaw
Sheila and Wally Weisman
The Winnick Family Foundation
Donna and Martin J. Wolff

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Aileen Adams and Geoffrey Cowan
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Adamson
Mariana Aguilar
Diana and Tad Allan
Laura and Harvey Alpert
Connie Alvarez
Brenda A. Anderson and Tom Rohlf
Mr. and Mrs. James Andrews
Angel City Brewery
Anjac Fashion Buildings (Orpheum Theatre)
Anonymous (6)
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Armbruster
John and Hilda Arnold Foundation
Jefferson W. Asher, Jr.
Allison P. Ashmore
Bridget Baker and Robert Cerny
Dana Baldwin and Randy Cox
Susan S. & Kenneth L. Wallach Foundation
Elizabeth L. Barbatelli
Sherry and Victor Bardack
Sean and Susan Barrett
Lorena Barrientos and Mark Merritt
In Memory of Cecile C. Bartman
Patricia E. Bauer and Edward R. Muller
Charles B. Baumer
Ambassador Frank and Kathy Baxter
Beck-Safir Foundation
Judy and Tom Beckmen
Randy and George Beckwith
Karen and Ted Coyne
Laurie and Bill Benenson
Mary Lynn Bergman-Rallis and John Rallis
J.B. Berland Foundation
Nancy Berman and Alan J. Bloch
Marlene and Brian Billington
Barbara Bilson and Bert Woodruff
Carol and Frank Biondi
Justine and Robert Bloomingdale
Rose Ann Boken
Roz and Peter Bonerz
Joseph E. Bonner
Linda and Harold Bowling
Bonnie Brae
Susan Brauneiss and Marc Gamsin
Gerald Breslauer and Joyce Klein
Seeley and Preston Brooks
Deborah and David Brown
John and Louise Bryson
Ellen and John Buchanan
Craig and Susan Burger
Kim and Virginia Caldwell
June M. Caldwell
Kevin Callahan
Carolee Campbell Elizondo
Anne Carroll
Darcy Carroll
Wendy Carson and Michael K. Lindsey
Elizabeth A. Castelli
Shirley Chami
Jade Chang
Carla J. Christofferson and Adam Shell
Joshua and Emily Musil Church
Mr. and Mrs. V. Shannon Clyne
David Conney, M.D.
Lodwick and Carole Cook
James C. Costa
Tobey Cotsen
Robert M. Cotten
Gail Cottman
Covington Capital Management
Thomas and Laura Crahan
Anne Crawford de Zonia
Elsie Cripe
Madeline R. Cripe
Ames Cushing
Josh and Ginnifer Dallas
Louise Danelian / Stephen Philibosian Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Davenport, III
Eunice David
Gabrielle Davis
Victoria and Dorn Dean
Denise and R. Thomas Decker
Sunita Deshmukh
Dr. and Mrs. Donald E. Dickerson
Susan and Edward Dilkes
Ellen Donaldson
Janet Dreisen Rappaport and Dr. Herbert Rappaport
The Durfee Foundation
Linda Duttonhaver
Alexandra and Joseph Dwek
Ann and William Edwards
Mona and Robert Ehrenreich
Emmy Ellison and Peter Sattler
David and Barbara Elson
Dr. and Mrs. Mark J. Epstein
Jennifer and William Fain
Amanda and Shepard Fairey
Farbstein Family Charitable Foundation
In Memory of Bernard and Arlene Fife
Peter M. Filsinger, M.D.
Susan and David Finkelman
Lisa Firestone von Winterfeldt and Caspar von Winterfeldt
Judy Fiskin and Jon Wiener
Fitzpatrick Family Fund
Daniel and Jeri Floyd
Maureen Frank
Jean and Jerry Friedman

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of each name and gift level.

If a mistake is made please accept our apology and let us know by contacting Rebecca Shehee at RebeccaShehee@lfla.org or call 213.292.6250.

Leora and Daniel Garner
Mary and George Garvey
Neal Gauger and Annie Li
Cindy and Robert Gelber
Inara George and Jake Kasdan
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Traute and Gene Gleeson
Jonathan Goldblatt
Good Works Foundation
Rikki Gordon, Ph.D. and Alan T. Pack, M.D.
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Grabel
Adrienne Grant
The Grant Family Fund
Peggy Grauman
Alison and Jerry Greenberg
Lenore and Bernard Greenberg
Francis D. and Irene D. Griffin Foundation, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Gross
Sharon and Irwin Grossman
Leslee Hackenson and Roger Allers
Janet S. Hadley
Emily Halpern
Paul Harder and Cliva Mee
Laurene Harding and Luis Rivas
Nan and Reed Harman
Susan L. Harris and Hayward J. Kaiser
Ambassador Frank and Kathy Baxter
Sharon Lybeck Hartmann
Hope and Stephen Heaney
Priscilla and Michael Heim
Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Herman
Pastor Herrera, Jr. (Ret.) Director, LA County Dept of Consumer Affairs
Barbara A. Hillman
Gerben and Jill Hoeksma
Katie and Philip Holthouse
Chery and Kenton Horacek
Adrienne and Elliott Horwitch
Carey and Tara Hotchkis
Joan and John Hotchkis
Mary N. Howey
Margaret and Jeff Hudson
Mark and Lisa Hutchins
Independent Writers of Southern California
Mr. and Mrs. J. Michael Jack
Michael and Lois Jacobs
Mary and Dan James
Hilary Jay
Janice A. Jerde
Audrey and W. Edgar Jessup
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon R. Kanofsky
Patricia B. Kao and Dr. Richard Benoit
Lenore and Fred Kayne
Milly Kayyem
Dr. Susan E. Kendall
Carrie and Stuart Ketchum
Robert F. Kibble
Sally Kiernan and Dr. Frederick Ho
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Klein
Betty Goodwin Klevan and Keith Klevan
Gina Knox
Terri and Jerry Kohl
Carolbeth Korn and Ambassador Lester Korn
Nancy and Carter Koven
Eleanor and Herbert Kraft
Dr. Joan Kreiss
Ellen Kubo and Allen Kirschenbaum
Laura La Shelle and Bob Kerslake
Daniel and Deborah Lacusta
George Laib
Mai Lassiter
Latham & Watkins, LLP
Mrs. Hubert F. Laugharn, Jr.
Ralph Lauren Beverly Hills
Lilly F. Lawrence
Jacqueline and Hoyt Leisure
Steve and Pat Lending
Betty Leonard
Francine Light
Karen S. Lorig
The Los Angeles Breakfast Club Foundation
Dr. Shelly Holcomb Lowe and Mr. Dennis Lowe
Nancy A. Lyon
Mr. and Mrs. Jack B. Mackey
Dr. Thomas and Marie MacIennan
MacTon Foundation
The Maillard Family Trust
Virginia Mancini
Barbara and Joel Marcus
Connie and Leslie Martinson
Ms. Denise McCain-Tharnstrom and Mr. Charles A. Tharnstrom
Stephen McDonnell
Penny Meepos
Catherine and Michael Meyer
Gwen Miller
Mary Milner
Joanne and Joel Mogy
Steve and Karen Morris
William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
Kent and Megan Mouton
Ann Mulally
Merle and Peter Mullin
Debbie and Bob Myman / Myman Greenspan Fineman Fox Light LLP
Barbara Namerow
Nicole Neeman Brady and T.J. Brady

Jolie and Charles Nelson
Richard and Constance Nemece
Stephen and Lisa Nesbitt
Jeanne Neville
Harriet and Steven Nichols
Elaine Nishizu
Susan and Michael Niven
Karen Nusbaum
Sharon Obermann Kane and Alan Kane
Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. O'Connell
Katherine and Bob Ray Offenhauser
Myrna Oliver
Ynez V. O'Neill
George Ortega
Patton Oswalt
Cathryn and Victor Palmieri
Richard and Donice Pancost
Natalie C. Park
Gordon J. Pashgian
Ann C. Patterson
Diane and David Paul
Sandra K. Peters
Therese Peters and Craig Lawson
Kay K. Pick
Anne and Bruce Pomeroy
Marie and Mark Pomeroy
Susan R. Purcell and Yair Landau
Lee Ramer
Rosemarie Reed and Brian Hashimoto
Jill and Chuck Reilly
Lynda and Stewart Resnick
Joyce Rey
Suzanne Rheinstein
Cheryl Rodman
Penelope C. Roeder
Donald Rolfe
Harriett and Robert Rose
Patty and Michael Rosenfeld
Laura and James Rosenwald
Susan and Marvin Rothenberg
Kerstin and George Royce
Françoise Rozzell
Suzanne Russell
Rx for Reading
Katherine T. Rydell
F. Elliott Ryder
Lionel B. Sanders and Teddi Berger
Mrs. Carla Sands
Margaret Black-Scott and David Scott
Annette Sedey
Daniel S. Shannon Charitable Trust
Shirley and Ralph Shapiro
Jamie Sher and Marisa Matarazzo
Louisa Shipnuck
Dennis J. Signorovitch and Janet F. Hindler
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Simon
The Lucille Ellis Simon Foundation
Rosa and Bob Sinnott
Eric Small
Dr. and Mrs. Trevor Small
Donnie and Joe Smith
The Lon V. Smith Foundation
Victoria Sofro
Jeet Sohal and Eric Andersen
Eric Sommerfeld and Janet Lin
Kim and David Sonnenblick
Samuel and Helene Soref Foundation
Judith and Stuart Spence
John and Betty Stanfill
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
Dana Stevens
Amanda and Nick Stonnington
Suzanne and William Sutton
John F. Szabo and Nicholas Kuefler
Rachel Tabori, Beam Foundation
Linda L. Tatum
Elayne and Thomas Techentin
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas A. Thompson
Brian Tichenor and Raun Thorp
Susan Tick and Scott Goldstein
Ethel N. Toki
The Carolyn K. Tribe Foundation
Elinor and Rubin Turner
Mary Lu Tuthill
Courtenay Valenti and Patrick Roberts
Kara Vallow
Carol Vernon and Robert Turbin
Susan and Donald Walerstein
Dody Waugh
Elizabeth L. Waybill
Jeremy Weese and Esther Chang Weese
Mary Ann Weisberg and Bryce Perry
Frederick R. Weisman Philanthropic Foundation
Carrie and Tadzio Wellisz
Luanne C. Wells
Barbara and Ian White-Thomson
Suzy Wilson
Jay and Wendy Wintrob
Wyss Foundation
Peg Yorkin
John Sacret Young
Zapata-King Neighborhood Council
Susan Zolla

Matching Gift Partners

AECOM Charitable Matching Contribution Program
Amgen Foundation
Aon Foundation
Areté Associates
Bank of America Foundation
Bank of the West
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
The Boeing Company
The Capital Group Companies, Inc.
DIRECTV Matching Gift Center
Walt Disney Company Foundation
Matching Gifts Program
Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company
Harder + Company Community Research
IBM International Foundation
MUFG Union Bank, N.A.
Northern Trust Matching Gift Program
The Prudential Foundation
Rovi Solutions Corporation
RSR Partners Inc.
Semptra Energy Foundation
Matching Grants
Time Warner Employee Grants Program
U.S. Bancorp Foundation - Matching Gifts Program
UniHealth Foundation
Weingart Foundation

Bibliophiles

Ann Albert
Maysoon Alsandook and Majid Mohamed Ali
Bob and Melissa Alvarado
Anissa and Paul Balson
Susan and Sean Barrett
Randy and George Beckwith
Barbara Bilson and Bert Woodruff
Catherine and Jeff Brown
Michael A. Bullock
Jacqueline and Henry Cahn
Teresa Marie Castelli
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
Herbert Feitler
Daniel and Jeri Floyd
RoseAnne and Thomas Frank
Melissa Galben
Eileen and Jon Gallo
Ami Gandhi
Shirley E. Garratt
Mary E. Gay
Beverly and Bruce Gladstone
Henry and Jane Goichman
Dean Hansell
Alan Harrow
Lorraine Hutton
David Johnson
Kristine Kadlec
Stephen A. Kanter, M.D.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Klein
Lynne Knox and Kevan Lynd
Nick J. Labeledz
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
Tina Nides
Sharon Oxborough
Sandra and Lawrence Post
Jean S. Rappaport
Thomas C. Rogers
Jack Rosenberg
Suzanne Rosenblatt and Jeff Buhai
David and Susan Rosenblum
Barbara J. Schwartz
Eileen D. Sever
Ruth Simon
Melanie and Jonathan Steiner
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
Myeong-Sim and Philip Young
Fern Yu

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles provides critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library resulting in free programs, resources and services available to thousands of adults, children and youth in Los Angeles. We accomplish this mission through fundraising, advocacy and innovative programs that strengthen the Library and promote greater awareness of its valuable resources.

support free access
negotiating (And) do I better to sound a person
a farre off, then to tal vponn the pointe at first. 1619
VINT. DONCASTER in *England & Germany* (Camden) 11
According to the Camdendian, I received from your Matie
cultural, and and educ
sounded him. 1713
NATHAN Petrach. Wks. 85: 14. 205 Another thine about the
punishment of adultery they came to sound him. 1713
ADDISON *Cato* i. iii. I've sounded my Numidians, man by
man, And find 'em ripe for a revolt. 1755 WASHINGTON *Letts*.
Writ. 1889 i. 216. I wish you would sound him on this head.
1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* li. wounded But on this subject
become a Member of
MACALAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. 11. 402 Russel opened the design
to Shrewsbury. Sidney sounded Halifax. 1885 *Manch.*
Exam. 21 July 4/6 Foreign financial agents... have been
strengthen the Lo
to sound out Aunt Matilda on how she'll feel. 1956 A. H.
COMPTON *Atomic Quest* 230 Japan was sounding out Russia
for her help in negotiating a conditional surrender. 1960
News Chron. 25 Feb. 1/2 He had sent a three-man mission
to Madrid to sound out the Spanish.

3 228 7500

with many fautes... and not sounde out matters of most
 rigorous sorte. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* ii. 128 Yet sought he
 then the King's intent to sound. 1650 R. STAPYLTON
Strada's Low C. Wars iv. 92 By his Letters sounding the
 inclination of the Duke and Dutchess. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v.
 700 The false Arch-Angel... casts between Ambiguous
 words... to sound or taint integrity. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc.
 Hist.* (1827) VII. xvii. 141 He therefore thought it prudent
 to despatch an embassy in order to sound their dispositions.
 1755 WASHINGTON *Lett. Writ.* 1889 I. 159, I should be glad
 if you could sound their pulse upon the occasion. 1823
 LAMB *Elia* ii. *Old Margate Hoy*, He was none of your
 hesitating, half story-tellers... who go on sounding your
 belief. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xii. 4 Cardinal Granvelle
 was instructed to sound the disposition of Francis.

1597 [see SOUNDING vbl. s⁴ *4]. **1640** FULKE *Joseph's Coat, David Repent.* xvii. (1867) 224 Nathan, than whom was none more skilled, "with a searching tent To sound the sore. **1738** Phil. *Trans.* XL. 372 But the Night following the Pains return'd, which made him resolve to come to Lisle, to be nearer at Hand to be sounded. **1830** S. COOPER *Dict. Fract. Surg.* (ed. 6) 814 The patient being sounded after the

I. xv. 150 At this my poor Brother, who was close to the Bar, sounded away, and fell down motionless. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) V. 252, I thoft as she would have a sounded at that. 1828- in dialect glossaries (Yorks., Northampt.).

to information.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 4 Of all other Metalles, this [*sc.* brass] is most soundable for his shrill and hard noise.
soundable [*soundable*] *v. n.* [*sc.* soundable] *v. a.* Of the sea: Capable of being sounded.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* III. 496 The Sea was there soundable, whereas before it was not so.

the Library Found.

Angelos Public Lib

1970 *Sat. Rev.* (U.S.) 31 Oct. 59/1 It is another of those more-of-the-same pieces, like the sound-alikes of another era, written by all those minor contemporary imitators of Haydn and Mozart. **1972** *Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat Monthly* Apr. 142/1 When a pharmacist takes a prescription over the telephone...there is always the possibility that a drug not intended by the prescriber is likely to be dispensed. Such an error could be the result of a 'sound-alike' or a 'read-alike' drug. **1975** *Verbatim* May 12/1 The lost r may one day ruin my professional reputation—by converting the word that's meant into an unrelated sound-alike. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 5 May 66/2 Hire a Pendergrass soundalike—David Ebo. **1979** *Logophile* II. v. 10/2 The *Encyclopedia of Homonyms*...claims to be 'the only complete comprehensive collection of 'sound-alike' words ever published'.

Sunday, obs. form of SUNDAY.

sound-board. Also 6 sownd-borde, sownde-bord, 7 sound-boord. [SOUND sb.³]

15. *Proverbial in Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 406 But whose in that instrumente [sc. the harp] hathe no speculation, What restitueth withyn the sownde-bord hath but smale relacion. 1504 in Herrig's *Archiv* CXX. 425 Of pe monacorde. . . I assayed pe musykes . . . but none wold speke; pe sownd-borde was to hy. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Trembloer*, the Sound-board of a Musicall Instrument. 1626 *BACON Sylva* §222 You may try it, without any Sound-board along, but onely Harp-wise, at one end of the strings. 1838 G. F. *GRAHAM The. & Pract. Mus. Comp.* Introd. p. v. In both of these harps the sound-board seems to have been large and sonorous. 1874 *TYNDALL Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xi. 244 All are . . . shaken forth into the air by a second sound-board [in a piano].

2. a. In an organ (see quot. 1881).
1611 COTGR., *Canon*,... the sound-board of an Organ.
1667 MILTON P.L. 1. 709 As in an Organ from one blast of
wind To many a row of Pines the sound-board breathes. 1732

suner, ON. *sonar-* (in *sonarblót*, *-goltr*), Lombard *sonor-* (in *sonorpair* boar), OHG. and MHG. *swaner* (OHG. *swanering*, MHG. *swänre*, boar).]

1. A herd of wild swine.
 12. *Gr. & G. Knave* 100 On þe sallowest swyn swenged
 and the civic,
 13. *Master of game* (M. 1518) 100 v. bat men calle, a
 trippe of tame swyne and of wyld swyne it is called a
 soundre, þat is to say, if per be passed .v. or vi. togydres.
 14. *Ibid.* xxiij. When þei be not of a grette, men calleth hem
 a community.
 15. *Sounder* 100 Twelfe make a
 soundre of wyld swyne. 16. *Sounder* what
 place they be inne, A grette sounder of swyne .xx. ye shall
 call. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 100 Of a bore, when he
 forsaketh the Sounder and feedeth alone he shall be called a
 Sanglier. 1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* iv. (Arb.) 100 A sounder
 of hog-steers. Of the brownye, þan too stalkfro the
 17. *Sounder* 100 18. *Sounder* 100
 25 b. The first yeeche he [i.e. the wild boar] and a legge of the
 sounder. [1616- in BULLOKAR *Eng. Exp.* and later Dictionaries.
 1632 *Guillim's Heraldry* III. xiv. (ed. 3) 177 Skillfull
 Forrester! and good Woodmen Doe vse to say, a Sounder of
 18. *Sounder* 100 1824 McCULLOCH *Highlands Scot.* III. 407. I
 have never spoken of a sounder of swine or a sculk of foxes.]
 1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sports For Lands I.* iv. 115 The
 noble sight of a fine sounder . . . breaking covert and scouring
 along the plain. 1880 THARP *Sword of Damocles* II. 219
 Almost directly afterwards the whole sounder, of ten or a
 dozen, emerged into the open.

¶ 2. *erron.* a. The lair of a wild boar. *rare*—1.
1725 POPE *Odys.* XIX. 519 Rous'd by the hounds and
hunters...cries, The savage from his leafy sounder flies.

b. (See quotes.)
1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ix, It had so happened that a sounder (*i.e.* in the language of the period, a boar of only two years old) had crossed the track of the proper object of the chase. **1891** C. WISE *Rockingham Castle* vii. 153 A wild Boar of the first year was a 'Sounder'.

sounder² ('saʊndə(r)). [f. SOUND *v.*¹]

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Tañedor*, a plaier or soulder of any instrument, *cantor*. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Luyder, ofte Luyder*, a Ringer, a Sounder. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* IV. iv. (1849) 216 This soulder of brass . . . was a lusty bachelor. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xiii. In the front . . . stood the soulder of the sacred trumpet. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. i, The soulders of three-fourths of the notes in the whole gamut of Crime were put to Death.

2. A telegraphic device which enables the communications or signals to be read by sound. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* 91 Since the adoption of the method of reading by sound, another apparatus has taken the place of the register, or recording apparatus, called the *sounder*. 1872 POPE *Telegraph* iv. 32 The Sounder consists simply of the electro-magnet, armature and lever fixed upon a base. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 246 The Sounder, on account of the extreme simplicity of its mechanism, is less liable to faults than any of the other forms of instruments which are employed.

attrib. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2247/2 *Sounder-magnet*, the magnet which operates the sounder in the receiving apparatus.

b. A telegraphist who operates or has experience with this.