America’s Shakespeare:  
The Bard Goes West

Central Library, Getty Gallery  
Through February 26, 2017

lfla.org/shakespeare
Letter from the President

I read books. Big, long books. I have what my husband refers to as ‘all of the above’—from Ann Patchett’s personal gratitude to the President Foundation’s Literary Awards this past fall as she was given the inaugural award. What I learned that right here—at the L.A. Central Library. If you ever had a problem with the importance of an institution that is counting upon them to learn, to participate, to lead. Our young patrons will remember in the future is the generosity of an enlightened electorate. This occurs in an intellectually safe sense of what was possible and also what we must provide for others. “Our children are our most important people and to create a community where they are safe and supported is a vital foundation,” said Diane Olivo-Posner, principal librarian for the Exploration and Creativity Department. An author such as Oliva Chao, Patty Rodriguez, Jane Sokol, and Laura Stein conducted literary workshops with the children called creating short stories after which “tears, laughs, and colored, and dancing our hearts out. Reading aloud is to just about everything and this program allows children to have a voice in making up stories and the like.”

There are three easy ways to support your Library today:

1. **Gift a Membership** to share the Library with your special someone! When you gift a Membership at the $100 level, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles will receive $200! A limited edition bookplate placed in a volume of your choice at the Los Angeles Public Library in your honor.

2. **Upgrade your Membership** to double your impact! For $20, you will receive additional benefits. You will receive access to the 1,000+ free programs and events at the Los Angeles Public Library. For $100, you can become a library supporter! You will receive access to the 1,000+ free programs and events at the Los Angeles Public Library, as well as a limited edition bookplate placed in a volume of your choice at the Los Angeles Public Library in your honor.

3. **Make a year-end donation** in addition to your Membership dues. You will receive a tax-deductible donation totaling in a volume of your choice at the Los Angeles Public Library with a donation totaling $100 or more! Learn more about the benefits of Membership and join today at lfla.org/membership or call 213.329.6342.

What Are You Missing?

Did you catch this year’s Pulitzer Prize winner—Viet Thanh Nguyen—at ALOUD? Did you hear Rosanne Cash serenade Central Library? If you missed out live, now you can experience ALOUD and other Library Foundation events on our improved online Media Archive so you can easily search and share videos and podcasts from past programs. Visit lfla.org/archive to watch, listen, and explore.

Los Angeles Public Library News

A Win-Win: Summer at the Library Inspires Readers and Authors Alike

During the months of November and December, all proceeds received through Membership will be doubled by a generous donor to help you double your impact this holiday season.

Every year the Summer at the Library program has chosen to inspire readers of all ages in learning during the summer school break. This year’s “Read for the Win!” for high marks—4242 participants joined the club, beating enrollment in the program by 24 percent from the previous year. One popular aspect of the “sporty” summer theme included a partnership with the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation. Members of the Dodgers family—including retired players and Manager Dave Roberts—took to the streets in Central Library and three branches. The Dodgers Foundation gives our Dodgers students and others priority to medicate youth in reach and learning at the Library a fun part of their summer plans.

This summer saw the return of free lunches, which were served to 3,138 youth across all libraries. For the first time, adults were formally invited into the always-crowded library. This pop-up component allowed older patrons the pleasure of engaging in reading, milling about, and creating a deeper relationship with the local community. Also new to this summer was the launch of a series to bring notable children and young adult authors to the Los Angeles Public Library’s neighborhood branches. Through the Patrons of Print, an endorsement recently established at the Foundation, young people were provided the rare and exciting opportunity to meet, hear from, and interact with published authors. The Summer Author Program enhances all summer housing opportunities available at the Library and go beyond the development of child literacy barriers by having them connect and be inspired by authors and illustrators, said Diane Olivo-Posner, principal librarian for the Exploration and Creativity Department. The Los Angeles Times noted that the Library Foundation is an example of public optimism. It is human, smart, and poignant. In it we learned the first library I read books. Big, long books. I have what my husband refers to as ‘all of the above’—from Ann Patchett’s personal gratitude to the President Foundation’s Literary Awards this past fall as she was given the inaugural award. What I learned that right here—at the L.A. Central Library. If you ever had a problem with the importance of an institution that is counting upon them to learn, to participate, to lead. Our young patrons will remember in the future is the generosity of an enlightened electorate. This occurs in an intellectually safe sense of what was possible and also what we must provide for others. “Our children are our most important people and to create a community where they are safe and supported is a vital foundation,” said Diane Olivo-Posner, principal librarian for the Exploration and Creativity Department. An author such as Oliva Chao, Patty Rodriguez, Jane Sokol, and Laura Stein conducted literary workshops with the children called creating short stories after which “tears, laughs, and colored, and dancing our hearts out. Reading aloud is to just about everything and this program allows children to have a voice in making up stories and the like.”

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Passion and Philanthropy: Edythe Broad Goes Back to Libraries

Edythe Broad is a champion of the arts and a champion of education. She is the co-founder of the Broad Art Foundation and the owner of The Broad, a contemporary art museum in Los Angeles. Edythe is a voracious reader of fiction and nonfiction and is known for her commitment to philanthropy. She has been involved in and donated to numerous causes, including education, science, and the arts. She has been a driving force behind the expansion of the Los Angeles Public Library and has been a lifelong supporter of the arts. She is known for her generous spirit and her commitment to making a difference in the world.

Checking In: Loretta Savery, New President of The Council of the Library Foundation

Loretta Savery is the new President of The Council of the Library Foundation. She is a seasoned fundraiser and a former volunteer director of the Los Angeles Public Library. Loretta is a lifelong supporter of the arts and a champion of reading. She is a voracious reader of fiction and nonfiction and is known for her commitment to philanthropy. She has been involved in and donated to numerous causes, including education, science, and the arts. She is known for her generous spirit and her commitment to making a difference in the world.

Interviews

You probably know Edythe as a champion of contemporary art. She is a champion of the arts and a champion of education. She is the co-founder of the Broad Art Foundation and the owner of The Broad, a contemporary art museum in Los Angeles. Edythe is a voracious reader of fiction and nonfiction and is known for her commitment to philanthropy. She has been involved in and donated to numerous causes, including education, science, and the arts. She is known for her generous spirit and her commitment to making a difference in the world.

Exhibitions

Celebrating Shakespeare Throughout Los Angeles

For the last five years, the Los Angeles Public Library has been working with expression artists and arts organizations to celebrate Shakespeare's life and legacy. The Library has organized a number of events, including film screenings, book club discussions, and community programs. The Library has been able to reach a wide audience and has been able to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds. The Library has been able to make Shakespeare's work accessible to everyone and has been able to create a sense of community around the arts.

Visualizing Language: A Zapotec Worldview

The Los Angeles Public Library is proud to present the exhibition “Visualizing Language: A Zapotec Worldview.” This exhibition explores the Zapotec language and culture and how it has influenced the city and the world. The exhibition features a collection of works by Zapotec artists, including paintings, sculptures, and photographs. The exhibition also features a number of workshops and educational programs, including a workshop on how to create a Zapotec mural and a workshop on how to create a Zapotec mask. The exhibition is open to the public and is free of charge. For more information, please visit shop.lfla.org.

AMERICA’S SHAKESPEARE

GOES WEST

Celebrating the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare’s birth, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles is proud to present a number of events and programs that celebrate the Bard’s contributions to literature and the arts. The Library Foundation has commissioned a new exhibition, “Shakespeare Goes West,” which will feature a number of works by contemporary artists, including films, paintings, and sculptures. The exhibition is open to the public and is free of charge. For more information, please visit shop.lfla.org.
George Saunders—one of today’s most celebrated and influential writers—is beloved for his wildly imaginative short stories—little gems packed with wisdom, social criticism, philosophical imaginings, dark humor, and heart. Subtle long-awaited first novel, this short story master delivers his most original, transcendental, and moving work yet. Lincoln in the Bardo places the reader inside a Crematorium on a rainy February night in 1865. From that seed of historical truth, the story spins into a metaphysical ritual as a grief-stricken President Lincoln—now in the Civil War—meets the lowly office worker Willie. Through thrilling experimental form Saunders creates a chorus of voices and a cast of characters living and dead. Saunders speaks with the timeless question: How can we continue to love when everything we love must eventually be lost? Before Saunders takes The Broad Stage for a special off-site ALOUD program on February 27, we spoke to Saunders about talking weddings, existing history, and the beauty of the Constitution.

The idea of a bardo—a form of purgatory in Tibetan Buddhism—is such an interesting and strange notion to place on an American historical figure. How did these ideas of Western and Eastern worlds collide as you imagined this story?

Saunders: The book takes place in a single night in a graveyard—my envisioning of an event that was described in newspaper articles as the time that Abraham Lincoln went, alone, to the crypt where his son, Willie, had been interred, to grieve and hold his body. There was no image that really captivated me, for many years. When I went to write it, though, I found I was most of the—basically just the only person there, which makes an uphill slog for a novel—it’s all interior monologue, basically, and...walking. I thought: Who else could be in that graveyard at night? And, of course, “Ghosts. Talking ghosts.”

And then I asked, well, why are they there? I just put any animal into the story. It was used in Tiben Buddhist to mean “transitional space,” and I often used that as a place between the moment of death and, you know, the place where he’s going. And I thought, well, that’s nasty. But then I thought, I guess the grieving family might be plotted with, in that sense, that they were simply magically ones of where they were, and...and, oh, well, what they had left behind, or whatever. It can’t be as you’re in it.

Saunders: There is a sort of beautiful tradition, I guess, of the bardo in the Buddhist tradition that, when you die, you have a sort of meditation, you have a meditation before you go on to whatever. And it’s an important transitional space, and I think that’s what he’s thinking, I think that’s what he’s thinking about his son, Willie.

And then I thought, well, why are they there? And I just put any animal into the story. It was used in Tiben Buddhist to mean “transitional space,” and I often used that as a place between the moment of death and, you know, the place where he’s going. And I thought, well, that’s nasty. But then I thought, I guess the grieving family might be plotted with, in that sense, that they were simply magically ones of where they were, and...and, oh, well, what they had left behind, or whatever. It can’t be as you’re in it.

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The Library Foundation Calendar  Winter 2016 – 2017

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 11 AM  GETTY GALLERY, CENTRAL LIBRARY
America’s Shakespeare: The Bard Goes West
Exhibition Reception
Open to Library Foundation Members at the Contributor level and above

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 7:15 PM  SHAKESPEARE NOW: Race, Justice, and the American Dream
Peter Sarsgard
In conversation with Anna Gopnik, Professor of English, George Washington University
From the power of objects and memories, and the pain of letting go, explore the global effort to capture the world’s most wanted fugitives and the evolution of international justice.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 10 AM  WHERE MEMORY LEADS: A Holocaust Scholar Looks Back
Saul Friedlander
In conversation with Steven J. Ross, historian and director, Center Institute for the Study of American Jewish Life
A Pulitzer Prize-winning historian examines how his work in the field of Holocaust studies traces the five-million-year-long biological story of the legendary coyote.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 7:15 PM  SHAKESPEARE IN TODAY’S AMERICA
James Shapiro and Lisa Wolpe
In conversation
Two Shakespeare aficionados guide us through an enlightening journey of what this master means to us today.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 7:15 PM  EVOLUTION AND THE YOUNG MIND: Creativity and Learning
Alison Gopnik
In conversation with Alex Cohen, co-host of KPCC’s “Take Two”
Developmental psychobiologist and philosopher Alison Gopnik uses the most recent behind-the-scenes imaginations, thinking and how thinking like a child can make adults more creative too.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2:30 PM  COYOTE AMERICA
Dan Flores
Performance and conversation with playwright Melanie Cooper
Heading environmental and natural history, Dan Flores traces the five-million-year-long biological story of the legendary coyote.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 7:30 PM  AN EVENING WITH SHAKESPEARE
Co-presented with The Broad Stage and the Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles

FOURTH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 7:15 PM  SHAKESPEARE IN TODAY’S AMERICA
James Shapiro and Lisa Wolpe
In conversation
Two Shakespeare aficionados guide us through an enlightening journey of what this master means to us today.

Wednesday, February 8, 7:45 PM
Witness to the Revolution: Draft Resistance in 60’s Los Angeles
David Harris, Winter Dollenbach, and Rob Zaugh
In conversation with author Chris Ringham
A look back at a local L.A. movement of draft resistance in the 1960s, America’s response to the age of revolution.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 7:15 PM  WHERE MEMORY LEADS: A Holocaust Scholar Looks Back
Saul Friedlander
In conversation with Steven J. Ross, historian and director, Center Institute for the Study of American Jewish Life
A Pulitzer Prize-winning historian examines how his work in the field of Holocaust studies traces the five-million-year-long biological story of the legendary coyote.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 11 AM  YOUNG LITERATI FAMILY DAY
Featuring special storytime, snacks, crafts, and the chance for our Youngest Literati to make as much noise as they want

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 7:30 PM  THE BROAD STAGE
The Stay Home Ball
Co-presented with The Broad Stage and the Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles

TUESDAY, MARCH 6TH  THE BROAD STAGE
An Evening with George Saunders
Lincoln in the Bardos
In conversation with author Anthony Marra
American master George Saunders discusses his most original, transcendent, and moving work yet—
his breakthrough first novel, Lincoln in the Bardo

SUNDAY, MARCH 5TH  THE BROAD STAGE
Save the Date!
Stay Home and Read a Book Ball with Chair Ann Patchett
Find out more at lfla.org/stayhome

For more information on these programs, book signings, and book purchases:
ALOUD: lfla.org/aloud or 213.292.6242
Book Reservations Recommended
General Programs: lfla.org/calendar or 213.292.6012
#LFLA
Programs are subject to change.

Location
Unless otherwise indicated programs take place at:
Richard J. Riordan Central Library
Mark Taper Auditorium
Downtown Los Angeles
1100 W. 1st Street
Los Angeles, California 90012
Not printed at City expense

ALOUD thanks its partners:
Arent Fox
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

Additional support provided by
The LA Weekly
Los Angeles Public Library

This winter we present programs from the following departments:

The Literary Council
The Young Literati
The Library Foundation

Winter 2016 – 2017 LFLA.org  9
The 2016 Literary Awards Celebration

“Books and beauty are united. Literature happens in gorgeous, magical, important places. This is something that has shaped my entire life.”

— Ann Patchett,
Los Angeles Public Library Literary Award Winner

Live From The Library

“Winter 2016 – 2017  213.228.7500   lfla.org     1110

The 2016 Literary Awards Celebration

“What we all have in common is our love of the public libraries and the deep knowledge of how a life can be changed by a neighborhood branch library,” said Library Foundation President Ken Brecher, who was joined by Chair of the Library Foundation Board of Directors Carla Christofferson and City Librarian John F. Szabo to welcome guests for special benefit. On September 24th, supporters of the Library Foundation gathered to celebrate the Foundation’s 24th anniversary. Raising over $1 million in funds in support for the Los Angeles Public Library, the benefit underscores the mission of the Library Foundation to change Los Angeles—and the world—through the power of our Libraries. This year’s celebration honored award-winning international best-selling author Ann Patchett with the Los Angeles Public Library Literary Award. The Foundation’s Light of Learning Award for advocacy honored Joan Hotchkis, a dedicated member of The Council since 1959. Both awardees addressed the crowd with impassioned speeches about the power of books and libraries—Patchett even described her devotion to books as spiritual. Before Hotchkis and Patchett received their awards at the historic California Club, guests were treated to a special musical performance by Joanne Pearce Martin, the Kathryn Heczko Martin Chair at the LA Phil’s keyboardist.

In honor of the Black Panthers Party’s 50th anniversary, photojournalist Bryan Shih joins former Panthers Ericka Huggins, Norma Mtume, Phyllis Jackson and local Black Lives Matter organizer, Melina Abdullah.

Award-winning poets Robin Coste Lewis and Sharon Olds in conversation with ALOUD curator, Louise Steinman for their program, The Body in Question: Two Poets

Actor and comedian Bill Hader reads aloud during storytime at Young Literati Family Day

Bibliophiles Barbara Bilson, her husband Bert Woodruff, and Bernice Colman

Featured speaker Eva Mitnick, Director of Engagement and Learning at the Los Angeles Public Library, with guest Margaret Durnin and Bibliophile Lorrie Hutton

Actors and musicians Riki Lindhome and Kate Micucci strike a pose at the Young Literati Summer Social

Author Colson Whitehead discusses his new novel The Underground Railroad with Joy Press during his ALOUD program at the Writers Guild Theater

Young Literati Chair Shannon Helmer and Kate Helmer strike a pose at the Young Literati Summer Social

Los Angeles Public Library Literary Award Winner Ann Patchett

Library Foundation Board Member Kim Sonnenblick and her husband David Sonnenblick

Joni Smith, John and Joan Hotchkis

Mark and Ellen Lyons

John and Diane Cooke with Literary Awardee Ann Patchett

Light of Learning awardee Joan Hotchkis

Library Foundation Board Member and Chair of the Board Carla Christofferson

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Los Angeles Public Library Literary Award Winner Ann Patchett

L.A. Phil Keyboardist Joanne Pearce Martin

Kim Sonnenblick and David Sonnenblick

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Give the Gift of Membership this holiday season. Every dollar received through Membership will be matched by a generous donor! Membership supports free access to information and the civic, cultural, and educational core of our community. Take this opportunity to see your contribution go twice as far to enhance the life-changing resources available at the Los Angeles Public Library.

See page 2 for more information on the Membership Match program.

OR

Visit us online at lfla.org/membership
Call the Membership department at 213.292.6242
Mail your Membership form and payment to
630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071