TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY 2017
The Library Foundation of Los Angeles was officially founded as a non-profit organization on February 4, 1992. Throughout 2017 we will be commemorating this milestone anniversary, our 25th year of working in partnership with the Los Angeles Public Library.

What some of our most committed friends will remember is that a whirlwind of supporters existed for years before the Library Foundation’s founding. Our predecessor, the “Save the Books” Campaign, was formed by Mayor Tom Bradley in response to two Central Library fires in 1986. These devastating fires destroyed 20% of the LAPL’s holdings and caused significant damage to the building. The generous individuals and corporations who funded that campaign helped to define what would become the Library Foundation’s mission, and more broadly, the power of the Library as an essential community center – open and welcoming to all.

A look at the minutes from the first-ever meeting of the Library Foundation Board of Directors reveals that our mandate was clear: then-City Librarian Elizabeth Martinez Smith discussed the diverse challenges that the Los Angeles Public Library faced, each requiring different homework areas for young people, literacy programs for patrons of all ages, and job information/resource centers to assist patrons gain skills and seek employment. I am proud to say that the Library Foundation is still the major supporter for programs in these areas, among many others.

2017 marks the beginning of my 7th year as President of the Library Foundation. The Library Foundation's Board and staff are inspired by the belief that every child, every student, every family deserves what the Los Angeles Public Library provides for free: the opportunity to learn and to think for ourselves.

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Ken Brosher
President

Letter from the President

Los Angeles Public Library News

Students Gain Unprecedented Access to the Library

Mitnick has been focused on the logistics of not only physically printing and mailing out the cards to the thousands of kids, but also working with schools, teachers, and parents on how to use all of the Library's resources. "Many students are not aware of the resources we have and how those resources can make life much easier for them as students," she explains. "We’re hoping that if a student uses one database, or downloads one ebook, or uses Live Homework Help—that one thing will be the gateway to using the Library for the rest of their lives—it’s this ease and free benefit they can use on their own terms and that they will remember throughout their school life and adult life."

As the cards are mailed out to students throughout the city, the Library will be able to track where and how students are using the Library and to improve its outreach to the students in the most need. Better data will also help to illustrate more clearly how the Library contributes to academic success by resulting in more students reading at grade level by third grade—which is a major determinant of future academic success and life success as it increases the likelihood of a student graduating from high school. These student successes are good for the whole city, says Mitnick. "I hope that we can show that investments in the public library are investments in the young people of L.A. and investments in the future of L.A."

Beyond helping young people, the City Librarian is also excited about how parents too will be exposed to using the Library for the rest of their lives—it's this ease and free benefit they can use on their own terms and that they will remember throughout their school life and adult life."

Quick Hits 2017 READING CHALLENGE

Make 2017 your most literacy year yet with our Library Foundation of Los Angeles Reading Challenge! Use the categories below to inspire your reading list. All participants can submit their forms for a chance to win.

In honor of the LAPL's 25th Anniversary, those who complete all 25 categories will be entered into the Grand Prize drawing! Join the conversation and post your progress online with #LFLArvade.

1. Read a book you never finished in 2016
2. Read a book recommended by a friend
3. Read a book written by a comedian/celebrity
4. Read a book by a non-American author
5. Read a book from a 2016 ALOUD presenter
6. Read a volume of poetry
7. Re-read a book you loved as a child or young adult
8. Read a volume of short stories
9. Read a book at least 100 years older than you
10. Read a book written by an author you have never read before
11. Read a long-form magazine article
12. Read a literature review
13. Read a play
14. Read a book from a genre you usually avoid
15. Read a book not loud to someone else
16. Read a book that has been adapted into a movie
17. Read a memoir
18. Read a National Book Award winner
19. Read a graphic novel
20. Read a book based in your home state
21. Read a book checked out from your local LAPL branch
22. Read a book about a culture you're unfamiliar with
23. Read a book with a bright-colored cover
24. Read a popular author's first published work
25. Read any book of your choice

Complete the categories in any order! Send a photo or scan of your list to kelespiechl@lfla.org or by mail to Library Foundation of Los Angeles, 620 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071 by June 30, 2017 to be entered into a drawing for one of our prize bundles! (And you, if a title fits more than one category, you may use it multiple times.)

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5. Read a book from a 2016 ALOUD presenter
6. Read a volume of poetry
7. Re-read a book you loved as a child or young adult
8. Read a volume of short stories
9. Read a book at least 100 years older than you
10. Read a book written by an author you have never read before
11. Read a long-form magazine article
12. Read a literature review
13. Read a play
14. Read a book from a genre you usually avoid
15. Read a book not loud to someone else
16. Read a book that has been adapted into a movie
17. Read a memoir
18. Read a National Book Award winner
19. Read a graphic novel
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2015 – 2016 Year in Review

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles strives to transform Los Angeles and the world through the power of library. Libraries are at the heart of community, culture, education, and democracy. For 25 years, the Foundation’s support for the Los Angeles Public Library has enhanced high-valuable programs that nurture literacy, the imagination, and lifelong learning. Our work between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 spotlighted ways we were made possible because of the generosity only from the people, foundations, community organizations, and organizations that share our belief in the transformational power of the Los Angeles Public Library for all Angelenos.

HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

Student Smart
Free college test prep workshops to
2,500
students participated in 888 practice
sessions, seminars, and workshops in 62 branches. On average, participants improved their test scores by 98 points.

Student Zones
Provides children and teens access to
dedicated furniture, computers, and equipment after school
28,463 children and teens used these spaces. 94% of the 2,500 Student Zones are located in branches that serve low-income neighborhoods.

Live Homework Help
Free online tutoring service with
1,500
individual tutoring sessions in both core and advanced academic subjects took place. 66% of users surveyed indicated that Live Homework Help helped them be more confident about their test scores.

We Read Together
Builds critical pre-literacy
95,071
participants heard 5,310,240 story-times. A total of 288 volunteers read with 28,483 children for 10,579 hours and distributed 2,948 free books.

Summer Learning at the Library
Strengthening the reading skills of children and teens during summer break
37,471 people engaged—a 9% increase from the previous year.

ENGAGING THE IMAGINATION

ALOUD
Free conversations, panel discussions, readings, and worksh
76
courses, 1,200 authors, 1,725 recordings and videos
966
points.

25 years
More than 85 years old, the Summer Reading Club is one of the Los Angeles Public Library’s longest running programs. A 1034 Summer time “Summer Reading” list included works by Lewis Alcott, Budyard Kipling, John Muir, and Robert Louis Stevenson. According to a Library Journal article from April 15, 1930, that year’s theme focused on travel. Librarians provided participants with realistic looking passports and visas!

INVESTING IN LIFELONG LEARNING

Adult Literacy Services
One-on-one tutoring, group classes, and self-directed and online practice at 25 literacy centers to help adults with low literacy skills read and improve their reading and writing proficiency
1,725
Adult Literacy students were assisted by 720 volunteers.

Health Matters
Provides access to prevention and intervention education services, improving the health and wellbeing of Angelenos
6,124 people at 22 neighborhood libraries attended 48 workshop class sessions to learn about health insurance options from Covered California and Medi-Cal.

Full STEAM Ahead!
Ongoing workshops for children, teens, and adults, engaging kids in science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) education
23,766 children and teens joined 1,036 hands-on STEAM programs across 62 library locations. Gibran trained by the program’s expert partners saw 95% of those programs.

Cybernauts
Provides patrons with personal computer assistance and training
470 people who are homebound, school, mental and health care services, and enrolls into the coordinated entry system to get all IDs through the newly launched “Source at Central Library”.

25 years
Since its inception, the Library Foundation has supported 4,400 ALOUD programs. This year, the ALOUD media archive launched, so far featuring 600 recordings and videos from the service’s 29th year—history—st all available for free to anyone with internet access via lfla.org/media archive.

Financials

LFLA 2015-2016 REVENUES

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As the vanguard of the Library Foundation’s mission to provide critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library, Young Literati brings together engaged Angelenos in their 20s, 30s, and 40s who believe in and celebrate the power of public libraries.

On Saturday, April 1, at Nouvelle House Hollywood, the biggest Young Literati celebration of the year returns: the Ninth Annual Toast. We recently spoke to two of the masterminds behind this year’s event. Young Literati Chair Samantha Hanke has long been a strong supporter of the Library and Vice President of Casting at Marini Films and the Co-Founder of Humble Pie Productions, dedicated to promoting unique talent, especially female voices. Young Literati Honorary Co-Chair Busy Philipps, who hosted the Toast for the fourth time, is best known for her work as an actor on Friends and Glee, Dawson’s Creek, and Cougar Town, and is currently starring in Vice Principals on HBO. Below, this dynamic duo discusses what drives their passion for libraries and gives us a sneak peak into the upcoming Toast.

How did you first get involved with Young Literati?

Philipps: I was asked to be a reader at the Toast in 2013, and I read pieces I love by Dorothy Parker called “Telephone Call” to kids, and I’ve been involved in any way I could and Amanda Fairey, who was the Young Literati Chair, thankfully took me on that offer!

Samantha, you took over as chair from Amanda this past June. What first drew you to the work of Young Literati?

Hanke: My step-father Robert Clark was a Library Commissioner for many years and I always thought it was such an important institution to be involved in. Libraries and books shaped my interests as a kid and I like helping to make that connection for a new generation. The YL offers a wonderful combination of community involvement and cultural satisfaction. Our work aids so many Angelenos and we all get the benefits with amazing programs.

Busy, what do you like best about being involved with Young Literati?

Philipps: I love being involved in a Los Angeles benefit that has provided books to children in our community who otherwise might fall through the cracks. The library offers an amazing way for parents and teachers to expose children to a myriad of ideas that can go beyond “just books.”

As we are preparing to raise a glass at the upcoming Toast, what are you looking forward to at this year’s event?

Philipps: Well, thru your Colin Hanke and I will be hosting together and seeing acers we’ve known each other for almost 25 years, who know what will happen! Samantha, what are you excited about? Any words of advice that you’re passing on to Colin?

Hanke: I am looking forward to having Cleoes Handel read! Busy is the perfect host and I hope Colin just follower her lead!

Why are libraries personally important to you?

Philipps: I am someone who grew up with a real love of books. My grandmother was a librarian and my mother and father are both avid readers so the library has been an important part of my life for a long time. Obviously, I don’t need to impress the importance of the public library to those reading this newsletter, but I think especially now, we need to remain committed to providing vital services (like the library programs, the STEAM program, the high school program) for people and children in our community who otherwise might fall through the cracks. The library offers an amazing way for parents and teachers to expose children to a myriad of ideas that can go beyond “just books.”

Samantha, you helped to launch the popular Young Literati Family Day events to connect more kids to the Los Angeles Public Library. As a kid, what did you love about libraries?

Hanke: I remember my first tour of the school library vividly. It was so big and had so many books to choose from. The Dewey Decimal System was also oddly appealing to me in its detail.

Busy, you’ve been hosting the Young Literati Toast for several years now—what’s one of your favorite Toast moments from years past?

Philipps: Russell Brand recapping everyone else’s toasts was a real highlight in 2011. I loved Randall Park reading a last year of the lifecycle of a water droplet from the Dewy fingerprint. Demiit Martin, reading from the dictionary, “Take Notes reading the ‘GoodReads’ reviews,” Jenny Lewis and Johnathan Rice performing. There are too many good moments to choose just one!

We look forward to seeing you there at the Toast and hope you’ll join us for the afternoon Family Day event on May 13th from 3-6 PM! Learn more about the Ninth Annual Toast at lfla.org/toast or contact Rebecca Miller, Director of Young Literati, at rebeccamiller@lfla.org or 213.232.6945.

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Also, your collection of Chicano art is such an interesting thing to learn about—why is collecting art—preserving this facet of Chicano culture and history—important to you?

Marin: I believe that Chicano art are the best painters out there today. I love it because this school of painting offers a vast variety of styles and techniques. I’m passionate about it because Chicano art is American art. Chicano art has been largely kept out of American museums until recently. Chicano artists haven’t been given the space or/and the money to buy or to sell their art. That’s why I’ve worked so hard over the years to get Chicano art on view in the mainstream. My mantra is always: “If you can’t love it or hate it, you better like it.”

From ceramics to standup, you have expressed yourself through many art forms and now you’ve published your first memoir. Why did you decide to turn to writing to tell your personal story?

Marin: I’ve always been a writer...it’s been part of what I’ve done throughout my career, from writing dialogue, to performance to journaling. I was ready to channel my thoughts about art into an exhibition catalog.

You will be taking part in the Library Foundation’s ALOUD series this spring, and you’ve participated in several other Library Foundation programs, like when you interviewed Carlos Santana at ALOUD in 2014. Why is supporting the Library important to you?

Marin: The Los Angeles Public Library is where I spent hours and hours teaching myself about art after school.

What are some of the things that you think readers of your memoir will be surprised to learn about you?

Marin: If someone knows me mostly as “Cheech,” they will undoubtedly be surprised with many of the stories I’m sharing through my memoir: for example, I was a professional potter, I lived in Canada for three years, I was an anarcho, and I have practiced transcendental meditation daily since I was 19.

The Los Angeles Public Library is where I spent hours and hours teaching myself about art after school. On Tuesday, March 28, 7:30 PM at The Aratani Theatre, join us to hear about some of the things that you think readers of your memoir will be surprised to learn about you.

An Evening with Cheech Marin

Cheech Marin is Not My Real Name... But Don’t Call Me Chong

In conversation with “La Mariquita” Hernandez, singer-songwriter, La Santa Cecilia

Tickets lfla.org/ALOUD

Spring 2017 213.228.7500 lfla.org 7

ALOUD Spring Preview: Cheech Marin
The Library Foundation Calendar  Spring 2017

ALOUD thanks its generous sponsors:
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
Arent Fox
Los Angeles Public Library
The Home and Read a Book Ball
Additional support provided by:

For more information on these programs, book signings, and book purchases:
ALOUD:
lfla.org/aloud or 213.292.6254
General Programs:
lfla.org/calendar or 213.292.6843
Programs are subject to change.

Unless otherwise indicated, program tickets are available:
Richard J. Riordan Central Library
Mark Taper Auditorium
432 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles, CA 90071

For more information on membership or how to attend the programs below, please visit:
lfla.org/calendar or call 213.292.6843.

Location:
Not printed on City Express.

Spring 2017  213.228.7500   lfla.org  9
Acclaimed author Michael Chabon personally discusses Mason’s life and work, and plays music for ALOUD’s School Library Foundation Board Member Bernard Parker explores the exhibit with his daughter

Elizabeth Flash-Bik company’s “Salty Shakespeare” treat guests to surprises monologues throughout the reception.

A Member re-stands one of Shakespeare’s most famous soliloquies on the exhibit’s interactive stage.

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, 2016 to December 31, 2016. These generous donors are instrumental in helping provide critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library for free programs, resources, and services to nearly 4 million people in service.

Donor Listing

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of each name and profile level. If a mistake is made, please accept our apology and let us know by contacting Rebecca Shores, Vice President, at rebecca.shores@al.org or call 213-285-5020.
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.

This spring, the award-winning Library Store is celebrating our city with carefully curated items from local artisans. Look for these items — and more — in our downtown shop located in the beautiful Central Library.

Phone: 213.228.7550 / shop.lfla.org / librarystore@lfla.org

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

Become a Member of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles to strengthen the Los Angeles Public Library! lfla.org / 213.228.7500