



Library Development Services

Annual Update | 2021-2022

2021-2022 Fiscal Year in Review

This report reviews the 2021-2022 fiscal year — the State Library's biggest year ever for grantmaking — and looks ahead to upcoming programs and projects. It provides information about activities funded by the State of California, the federal Library Services and Technology Act Grants to States program, the federal American Rescue Plan Act, and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

The State Library awarded over \$125 million in new grant funds and administered \$501 million more for ongoing and upcoming projects, including Building Forward — the single largest investment in local libraries ever made by the state.

Californians in all of the state's 58 counties and 185 public library jurisdictions benefited from the array of library services supported by the State Library. Early learning services, summer reading, adult literacy, technology training, support for job seekers, and access to broadband, laptops, Wi-Fi hotspots, and quality news reporting are the tip of the iceberg.

As community members ventured out following pandemic closures and restrictions, libraries welcomed them. Californians visited libraries to access free meals and other essential services, to talk, to play, to exercise, to learn, of course, and to borrow musical instruments, sports equipment, gardening tools, and books. Library vehicles brought library services to people living far from library buildings, and libraries provided after-hours access to materials for Californians whose schedules don't align with standard operating hours.

The State Library also developed a new Five-Year Plan for Grantmaking, which was approved by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. This plan prioritizes equity in how the State Library supports libraries, cities, counties, non-profits, and other organizations; develops statewide programs and projects; delivers training, consulting, and resources; collects and shares library data; and works with others to strengthen California's libraries and increase Californians' access to information and essential resources.

For more information about our work and our team, please visit our website: <https://www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/>

The California State Library's grantmaking strengthens the ability of local libraries to meet the needs and expectations of California's communities and improve access to opportunities for all.

That grantmaking is accomplished by the Library Development Services Bureau.

- \$626 million state and federal funds administered by Library Development Services in 2021-2022
- Funding awarded to libraries and organizations in all 58 of California's counties
- 196 cities benefitted from grants
- All 185 library jurisdictions participated in statewide initiatives
- 163 of 185 library jurisdictions and nine cooperative library systems received at least one grant or subaward
- 673 grants and subgrants awarded to libraries and other organizations

Table of Contents

Investing in the Future of California Libraries	5
Supporting California’s Children, Teens, and Families	8
Helping Communities Thrive	12
Creating Community Connections	13
Expanding Access to the Internet.....	18
Expanding Access to Library Services and Collections	19
Expanding Access to Libraries, Museums, and Cultural Institutions	20
Supporting Library Workers	20

Funding sources for programs in this report are indicated by the following:



Funded by the State of California



Federally Funded

Project Partners:

- Califa
- California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs
- California Department of Aging
- California Department of Education
- California Department of Technology
- California Library Association
- California State Labor and Workforce Development Agency
- California State Parks Department
- Northeast Document Conservation Center
- The Office of the First Partner of California

Library Cooperative System Project Partners:

- 49-99 Cooperative Library System
- Black Gold Cooperative Library System
- Inland Library System
- NorthNet Library System
- Pacific Library Partnership
- San Joaquin Valley Library System
- Santiago Library System
- Serra Cooperative Library System
- Southern California Library Cooperative

About California's Public Libraries



185 library jurisdictions

1,127 buildings with over 17 million square feet of space



60 traveling bookmobile branches and 98 additional outreach vehicles

Almost **15,000** library staff members



21+ million Californians have library cards

Californians visited their libraries over **57 million times**



Californians checked out an eBook, eAudiobook, or eVideo **59M+ times**

Californians checked out books and other physical items **128M+ times**



Almost **76,000** check-outs of laptops and 140,000 check-outs of wifi hotspots

35,970 library volunteers contributed over 853,000 hours of their time



Investing in the Future of California Libraries



Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program The State of California made its largest single investment in public libraries in 2021, providing the State Library with \$439 million to fund an equity-focused library facilities grant program. This was followed by an additional \$50 million in 2022.

The State Library awarded over \$313 million to 246 libraries in 182 cities and 34 counties in the fall of 2022. The projects will address some of the most pressing life-safety and critical maintenance needs in California's public libraries, ranging from roof replacements and electrical upgrades to library expansions and, in some cases, new libraries. This includes a new library for the City of Porterville whose library was destroyed in a fire in 2020.



SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY - Mission Branch



YOLO COUNTY LIBRARY - New South Davis Branch Library



SACRAMENTO PUBLIC LIBRARY - Elk Grove Library



VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY - Meiners Oaks Library

Looking Forward
Many more buildings still need improvement. Round Two of the program opened in Spring of 2023, offering cities, counties, and library districts another opportunity to apply for funding to help ensure their library buildings are safe and modern and meet the needs and expectations of their communities.

Advancing Digital Equity with American Rescue Plan Act Funds

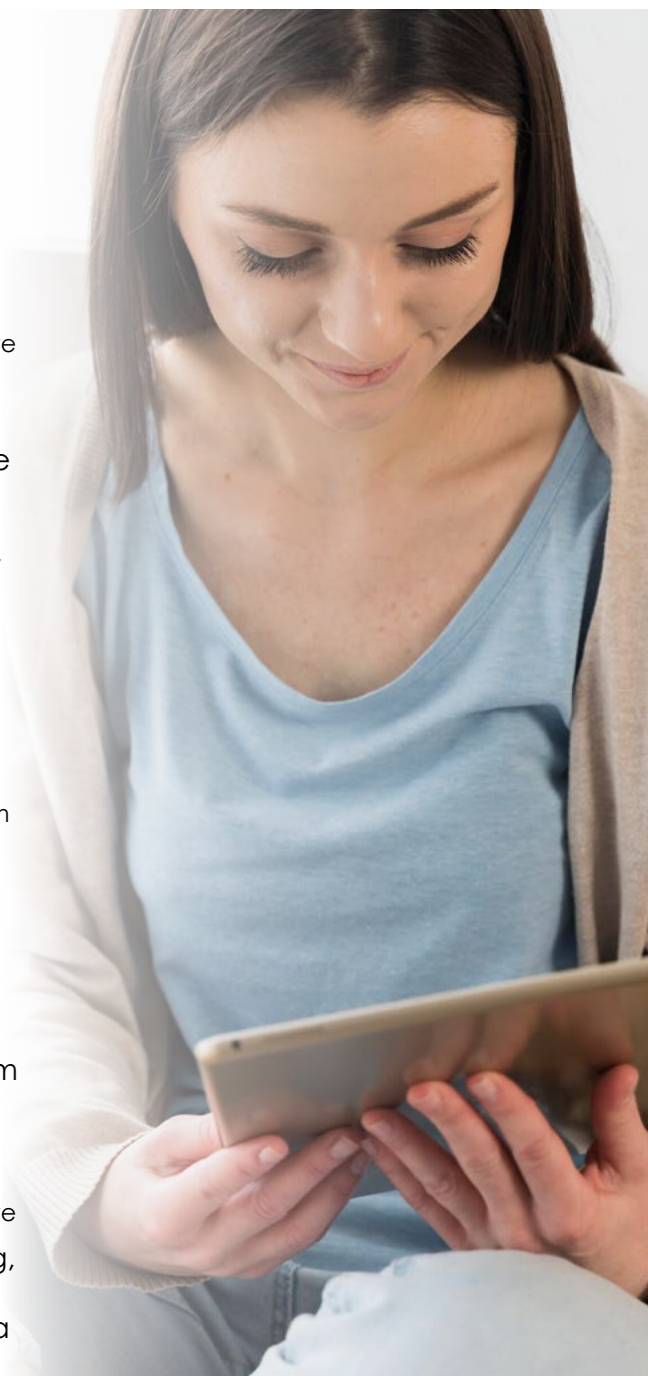


Californians statewide can now access free eBooks, online job training and career resources, Chromebooks and hotspots, and one-to-one help from trained staff for school, work, and home thanks to four new equity-focused library projects.

The projects began with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds when libraries and schools closed during the pandemic. ARPA funds helped libraries respond directly and immediately to economic and community needs that were created or exacerbated by the pandemic.

These new projects are helping the state achieve two key goals set out in California's Broadband for All Action Plan: "All Californians have access to affordable broadband and necessary devices; and All Californians can access training and support to enable digital inclusion."

- **Digital Navigators** connect community members with trained staff who help them find low-cost internet services, use digital devices, access online resources, and navigate the digital world. Reflecting on their experience, one digital navigator said: "The idea that someone would be able to give her one-on-one assistance for her specific needs was such an overwhelming relief that she cried."
In partnership with Southern California Library Cooperative
- The **eBooks for All California** project has made almost 80,000 eBooks available free of charge to Californians and is creating the infrastructure for a world class statewide eBook collection accessible through any California public library. As of December 2022, 109 public library jurisdictions have joined the statewide online library, meaning that more than 18 million Californians will have access to these eBooks. The State Library will continue to provide libraries with grants to purchase new titles to build the statewide collection in 2023.
In partnership with Black Gold Cooperative Library System
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools went online and many California households lacked the technology their students needed to succeed. Through the **Home Connectivity Kits** project, 1,488 Chromebooks, 1,306 hotspots, and 2,599 Accessory kits (each with a mouse and headset) were available to check out from local libraries, helping bridge the digital divide and provide families with access to essential tools.
In partnership with Southern California Library Cooperative
- **Career Pathways** is a suite of online job training, workforce development, and educational resources available to anyone with a California library card.



In 2022, the State of California invested an additional \$10.2 million to expand the ARPA project, ensuring that Californians have free access to these life-changing programs through September 2024. **CAreer Pathways** resources are available to all Californians.

In the first year of the project, Californians logged over 400,000 hours of online learning using CAreer Pathways platforms — the equivalent of 833 years of community college! CAreer Pathways includes the following digital tools:

- **Coursera:** Skill building for in-demand jobs
- **Job & Career Accelerator:** Easy-to-use search tool for finding, applying for, and getting hired into ideal positions
- **LearningExpress Library:** Supports those looking to obtain occupational certification, prepare for college, become a United States citizen, and more
- **LinkedIn Learning:** Focuses on skills needed to land the most sought-after jobs
- **Northstar:** Helps people with no, low, or limited technology skills
- **Skillshare:** For creative people and others wanting to build or grow a business or learn new skills
- **Bendable:** A lifelong learning platform for Californians looking to expand their skills and knowledge



In partnership with Pacific Library Partnership

●● “[CAreer Pathways] has been empowering. Due to the pandemic, I have had to change course in careers, and I felt completely unprepared. These courses through the library have given me the opportunity to learn new skills and find a new career path that I would otherwise not have the required skills to apply for.”
Library patron ●●

400,000
total hours of online learning

Supporting California's Children, Teens, and Families



Summer at your Library: in summer 2022, participation in California's public library summer reading programs was back to pre-pandemic numbers, with over 749,000 signups and attendance of more than 1 million at programs. Summer at Your Library encouraged lifelong learning and combatted "summer slide" — the learning loss that can happen when school is not in session. For library staff, summer planning starts in the fall, and the Building Equity-Based Summers project provided library staff with training, resources, and tools year-round to help them deliver library summer services for and with community members. Particular attention was paid to marginalized communities that historically have not accessed or been served by summer library services.



In partnership with California Library Association

Teen volunteers contributed
8,000+ hours

500,000+ Books to
help families build home libraries

Looking Forward

In 2022, California's Building Equity-Based Summers effort went national! The California Library Association, in partnership with the California State Library, received a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services to bring equity-based summers to libraries in other states. Over the course of the three-year project, state library agencies and public libraries will work together to re-envision summer practices and co-design equitable summer services for and with youth and families in their communities.

The **First Partner's Summer Book Club** promoted literacy and encouraged children to take part in summer reading at their local library. The Book Club featured 21 titles for children and teens from preschool to 8th grade, selected by First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom and nominated by California public librarians. The books included important social and emotional learning themes and highlighted key values like diversity, self-love, and acceptance, and were available to check out from every public library jurisdiction.

In partnership with California Library Association

Looking Forward

In 2023, the First Partner's Summer Book Club will continue to support and encourage positive values and actions through stories and poems and raise awareness of public library summer programs and resources.

●● A young Lunch at the Library participant told staff “it was a perfect day that the library started this program because that was the day his family had run out of food to eat. He was so thankful and grateful. He said he’s been able to eat every weekday with us and was so happy about that.” ●●



Every year, children and teens across California lose access to daily nutritious meals when school lets out for summer. The State Library works with the California Department of Education to increase the number of Californians who access free summer meals through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Summer Food Service Program and help ensure all children and teens eat healthy nutritious meals during the summer months.



Libraries make great spaces to serve meals, and in 2022, the **Lunch at the Library** program served over 263,000 free summer meals to children and teens. Staff in 171 libraries provided over 5,400 games and sports, arts and crafts, science, technology, and reading programs at public library summer meal sites and another 400 community meal sites. Libraries also connected families with community services and resources and provided them with over 95,000 activity kits and 111,000 free books to take home.

263,000
free summer meals



Looking Forward

Recognizing libraries’ success, the 2022-2023 California state budget includes a new ongoing investment of \$5.4 million in Lunch at the Library to help ensure that more families experiencing food insecurity can access nutritious meals and wraparound community services every summer.



El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros celebrates children, families, and reading with activities that culminate on April 30 each year. In 2022, the Día program helped 230 California libraries present bilingual storytimes, cultural musical performances, puppet shows, and other programs for children and their families.



In partnership with Southern California Library Cooperative



Stay & Play programs, funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, provide training and support for informal childcare providers — families, friends, and neighbors. Library staff provide caregivers with early learning information, help them understand their value and role in child development, and facilitate relationships with other informal caregivers, library staff, and community organizations. Thirteen library jurisdictions hosted 230 Stay & Play sessions that were attended by 4,957 caregivers and children.



In partnership with Califa

●● “I get support from library staff in choosing books to read. Also I sing songs that we learn from the Stay & Play sessions at home.”

Stay & Play caregiver ●●

●● “A parent told us that her toddler met a new baby at a social gathering and tried to sit the baby down and ‘read’ a story to her. The parent was sure her child was mimicking the Stay & Play program.”

Library staff ●●



Together, the **Shared Vision** and **Stronger Together** grant programs have funded 66 projects that are helping libraries strengthen their role as community hubs. Libraries from Butte County in the north to Imperial County in the south have partnered with local community organizations, including school districts, non-profits, parks and recreation departments, and YMCAs to deliver programs and connect early learners, children, teens, and families with essential services.



Libraries also expanded their after-school programming for children and teens. Oakland Public Library collaborated with the Museum of Children's Art on after-school art classes. And San Diego Public Library provided workforce development opportunities for teens in partnership with the University of California, San Diego.

In partnership with Black Gold Cooperative Library System

●● **“(This program is) a perfect way for us to be able to bring our strength as organizations and institutions together to really serve the families in our community.”**
Librarian ●●

Online Tutoring: All of California's school-age children and teens now have free access to online tutoring 24/7 through their local public library! This new statewide service, which launched in September 2022, delivers K-12 homework help in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, and Tagalog. Adult learners can also access writing and citizenship resources.



In partnership with Public Library Partnership

●● **“With historic investments to give the youngest Californians a strong start in life, enrich our schools and expand supports like tutoring, we’re building on our commitment to create more opportunities for every child in our state to thrive . . . Public libraries are the hearts of communities across the state and our hubs of learning, discovery, and oftentimes – safety.”**
Governor Gavin Newsom ●●

Helping Communities Thrive



The State Library awards grants funded through the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) to support experimentation and innovation in library services, and to help libraries respond to local community needs.

This year, the open, competitive **Local and Collaborative Grants** program supported library programming in 14 counties. Projects included San Diego Public Library's social justice book discussions, Books for Good Trouble; Long Beach Public Library's Khmer Cataloging Project, which enabled Khmer speakers to find and access materials in their own language; and Ventura County Library's Mobile Career Center, which brought career services and computer and Internet access directly to underserved, vulnerable, and low to moderate income communities.

Inspiration Grants enable library staff to realize “aha” moments when inspiration strikes. This year, projects at 11 libraries included take-home activity kits that help caregivers build children's early literacy skills, a lending collection of sports and recreation equipment, and a TechLab for Seniors that provided a safe learning environment for older adults to gain confidence using smartphones, tablets, and laptops.

●● “(A participant) thanks us every time he is at TechLab. He said that what would have taken him years to learn, we were able to teach him in days because we were patient with him. We felt good that we were able to empower him. He recently applied to an online college at age 68. He will be an inspiration to others as well.”

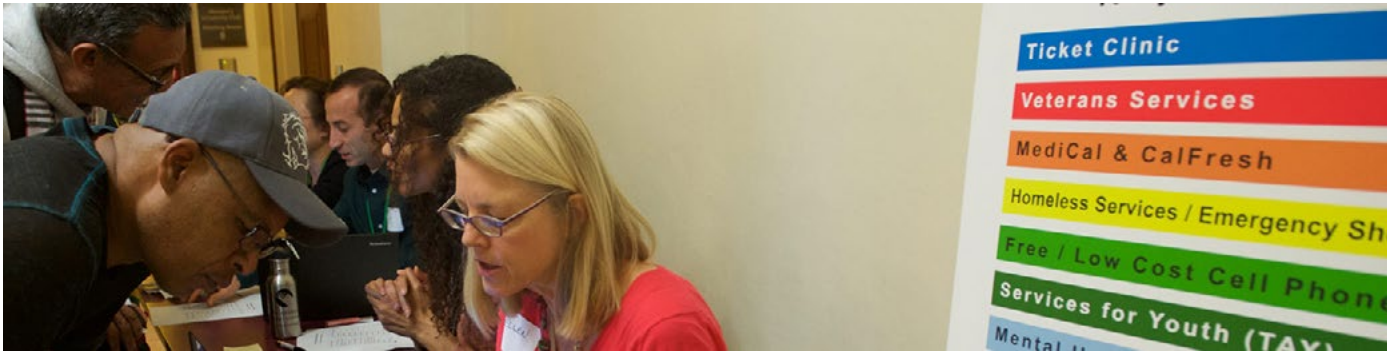
TechLab for Seniors, Santa Fe Springs Library ●●



CopyCat Grants help library staff replicate or “copy” successful programs that have been developed and tested in other libraries. Bicycle maintenance and repair clinics, Ukulele classes, creating seed libraries, NASA programming, and “Adulting” classes for teens are just a few of the 29 CopyCat programs that libraries implemented in 2021-2022.



Creating Community Connections



The **Community Connections Initiative** helped 10 libraries in 10 counties partner with community service agencies, including a chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness in San Mateo and the Ochoa Migrant Center in Gilroy, to help eliminate barriers that prevent people from accessing community housing, health, nutrition, employment, and educational resources. The initiative also helped libraries become stronger community hubs for local social services organizations.

The **Library Workforce Partnership Initiative** supported employment, career development, and skill building for job seekers. It was developed in partnership with the California State Labor and Workforce Development Agency. A cohort of eight libraries worked with their local Workforce Development Boards to help job seekers become more aware of the support available at the library and from other community organizations. The initiative provided library users with referrals to local job centers and supported career fairs for community members seeking a career change.

In partnership with Labor Workforce Development Agency

Volunteer programs add value to library services and programs and enrich the lives of community members who volunteer. Between the first and second year of the pandemic, California libraries saw a 63 percent decrease in the number of hours contributed by volunteers. **Get Involved** helped libraries begin to rebuild their volunteer corps and introduced library staff to tested and effective volunteer engagement practices. Project staff also provided library workers with an online clearinghouse of resources and access to training, as well as regional and national library networks, to help them recruit and train new volunteers and implement inclusive and equitable volunteer practices.

In partnership with Califa

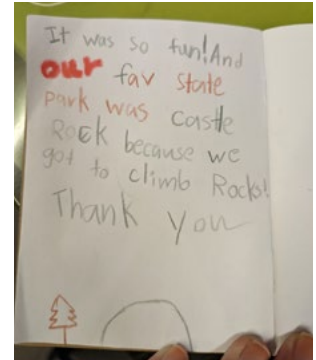


The **Book to Action** program brought Californians together to talk about books and discuss their diverse opinions in 12 communities from Mendocino to Los Angeles. Participating libraries received grants and support from the State Library. The featured books focused on groundbreaking women, handling grief, lessons in living longer, the fight for housing in America, and spotting fake news.

●● “The entry cost to state parks usually puts me off. Having the pass made it super accessible. Also it brought me into the library where I signed up for a reading program and checked out other items that I never would’ve thought they’d have (a game and an electric drill!).”

Parks Pass Borrower ●●

Californians can now borrow free passes for 201 state parks from their local public libraries through a partnership between the State Library and California State Parks. The **Parks Pass Program** was an instant hit with communities, and the first 5,000 Parks Passes were checked out over 14,000 times between July and September 2022.



The State Library awarded \$167,993 in grants to help 38 libraries raise awareness of the passes through programming and outreach in 2022. Library programs included discovery backpacks for community members to check out and take to a State Park, story walks that display book pages along outdoor pathways, and outdoor learning opportunities including star-viewing parties, landscape painting, and scavenger hunts.

In partnership with California State Parks and The Office of the First Partner of California

Looking Forward

An additional 28,000 passes and more grant opportunities are now available to help even more Californians discover their state parks and libraries.

The **Ethnic Media Outreach Program** distributed nearly \$6 million in grant funds to 50 ethnic media outlets and service organizations in California. This program aims to increase public awareness of the California Department of Social Services' "Stop the Hate" program, which is designed to support victims of hate incidents and hate crimes. It promotes education about preventing hate crimes and community healing for groups who are vulnerable because of their ethnic, racial, religious, gender/gender expression, sexual orientation, or other identities.



In partnership with California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs

\$6 million to increase public awareness of the "Stop the Hate" program

Transforming the Lives of Adult Learners and their Families



California Library Literacy Services help thousands of Californians and their families grow and succeed. In 2021-2022, 104 California library jurisdictions helped adults gain basic literacy skills, use library services effectively, and achieve personal learning goals such as applying for a job or reading a medicine label. Family literacy staff in 71 library jurisdictions also helped adults develop their confidence and skills as they learned how to read to their children, select books, and foster a love of reading in their families. They also learned how to navigate the systems and services that affect their households and how to strengthen their connections and communications with educators, healthcare professionals, and employers.

One-time funding of \$15 million also supports English as a Second Language (ESL) programs in 48 library jurisdictions which provide services including one-to-one tutoring, large classes, and small group workshops where attendees can improve their communication skills, build vocabulary, discuss current events, and learn other life skills such as how to access health care resources.



The Literacy Initiatives project, which is supported with federal LSTA funds, increases the effectiveness of the state's literacy funding by providing training and resources for library literacy staff, volunteers, and learners to help them plan, deliver, and take part in high-quality adult and family literacy programs. This year, the initiative delivered 41 training and networking programs for library staff and a series of leadership trainings for adult literacy learners to help them with goal setting, building self-esteem, networking, and public speaking.



●● “Veronica had severely limited English and was seeking help to pass the US Citizenship test . . . [She] worked very hard and we were all thrilled when she passed the 2nd test and became a US Citizen.”

Literacy Coordinator ●●

Looking Forward



In November 2022, nearly 30 libraries began participating in a multi-million dollar AmeriCorps initiative, which is bringing as many as 70 AmeriCorps members to libraries across the state. Members will respond to crucial challenges such as tutor and learner recruitment, community engagement and partnership, digital literacy, family programming, and the need for enhanced training. Modeled on a successful statewide AmeriCorps initiative for library literacy programs that took place between 2004 and 2010, the project will build capacity, promote pandemic recovery, and support innovation and growth among library literacy programs. Funded by AmeriCorps.

In partnership with Public Library Partnership



This year, 887 students pursued a high school degree through their local library and the **Career Online High School** program. Students participating in the State Library project take an average of 11 months to receive their diploma, and 76 percent of graduates report they are interested in post-secondary education.



●● “I’ve been wanting to get my high school diploma for a long time and once I became a mother, it further pushed me to think of my future and gave me motivation.”

Program Participant ●●

887
students currently
enrolled in Career
Online High
School

Preserving Californians’ History

The California State Library is helping libraries, museums, and cultural institutions preserve and digitize materials in collections across the state.

California Revealed helped 89 organizations, including the Covina Historical Society, the Truckee-Donner Historical Society, and the Salinas High School Library, preserve and make available local history collections that were previously unprocessed and hidden from community members. The California Revealed website now hosts and makes available 109,000 objects from a total of 370 organizations. This collection includes 54,798 texts, 18,649 images, 11,179 audio recordings, and 9,869 moving image recordings.



In partnership with Califa

The **California Digital Newspaper Collection** continued to grow this year with \$430,000 in support from the State of California. To date, over 840,000 historic issues of California newspapers have been digitized and made available by the Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research at the University of California, Riverside. Titles are available from newspapers throughout the state, from Modoc in the north to Imperial County in the south, with content available from the 19th and 20th centuries.



840,000
historical issues of California
newspapers digitized

The **California Civil Liberties** program helps community organizations create and share stories about historic and modern civil rights violations and injustices based on race, national origin, immigration status, religion, gender, or sexual orientation, with an emphasis on recognizing the civil liberties violations experienced by Japanese Americans during World War II. The State Library funded 30 new projects this year including a PBS documentary about Manzanar's connection to native communities, an audiobook collection from LA Theatre Works, and a Stop Repeating History campaign from the Korematsu Institute.



The LGBTQ+ Preservation and Accessibility Project provided \$750,000 to 11 museums, academic institutions, and nonprofit organizations to help preserve lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer materials relating to the LGBTQ+ movement, culture, experience, and history in California. These multi-year projects include preserving rare historical LGBTQ+ periodicals at UC Davis, the preservation of Silicon Valley's queer political and social history by the Bay Area Municipal Election Committee (BAYMEC) Community Foundation, and a collaborative, cross-generational archive by Color Compton, an organization working with Compton youth to build community among people of color through history and art.

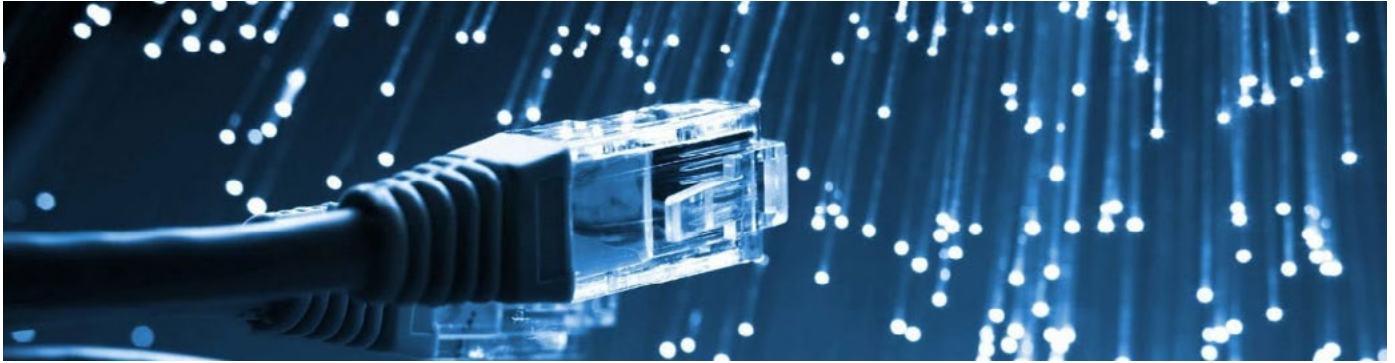


Looking Forward



The Ready or Not Disaster Preparedness Program is beginning to help organizations create disaster preparedness plans that protect at-risk art and historically and culturally significant collections in underserved and underrepresented communities. The State Library's project partner, the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), has begun helping archives, cultural centers, libraries, and museums. Funds are now available to support organizations in implementing their plans, helping to ensure that collections aren't lost when disaster strikes.

In partnership with Northeast Document Conservation Center



Expanding Access to the Internet



The **California Library Connect** program provides Californians with access to high-speed internet through their local public libraries and partnerships between libraries and other community anchors like healthcare organizations and educational institutions.

Since 2014 the program has connected over 960 library buildings to the high-speed CalREN network, and in 2021-2022 awarded over \$2.8 million in grant funds to help 31 libraries purchase equipment and cover other connection costs. The CalREN network provides cost-effective, high-bandwidth Internet access for California's Community Colleges, K-12 schools, public libraries, the California State University, and the University of California.

California Library Connect is helping the state achieve the goals of the Broadband for All Action Plan: "All Californians have high-performance broadband available at home, schools, libraries, and businesses; and All Californians have access to affordable broadband and necessary devices." The State Library is also working with the California Department of Technology on other initiatives that contribute to the state's **Broadband for All** program including the Affordable Connectivity Program enrollment drive and the development of the state's Digital Equity plan.

In partnership with CTC Technology & Energy and Califa



Looking Forward

The State Library is implementing new strategies to bring high-speed broadband to hard-to-connect communities. With a \$35 million investment from the state, and in partnership with CTC Technology and Energy, the new California Collaborative Connectivity grant program will increase broadband access in underserved areas by supporting partnerships between libraries and other community anchor institutions and filling gaps in federal funding. The application window for this funding is open and applications are in progress.

Over 82 percent of California library jurisdictions have connected to CalREN

Expanding Access to Library Services and Collections



In partnership with Black Gold Cooperative Library System

Thirty-three libraries expanded access to their collections and services through new vehicles and new technologies with support from the **Shared Vision** and **Stronger Together** grant programs.



By 2024, more than 30 new mobile libraries will bring library services and programming into California communities; over 20 of these will be fueled by sustainable energy sources. Library cardholders at 23 library branches will be able to pick up materials after hours from book lockers or by swiping their cards to enter library buildings when staff are not present using the Open+ library access system.

ZIP BOOKS

The **Zip Books** program provides a quick and easy way for library users to access materials not currently owned by their local library. Patrons request an item, the library purchases it, and Amazon ships it to the patron's address.

When finished, the patron returns the book to the library. Because Zip Books is user driven, the purchases are closely matched to the needs of the local community. In 2021-2022, 89 libraries took part in Zip Books and received a total of \$1 million in grant funds from the State Library. One library staff member said that Zip Books "has truly transformed our collections, our ability to get materials to patrons in a timely manner and connected our collections development department with [patrons' interests]."



The New York Times

Californians used their library cards to read the New York Times 1.6 million times in 2021-2022, accessing 5.2 million pages of news stories. The State Library funds a subscription to the **New York Times** for all California public libraries, and Californians enthusiastically embrace this service.



● ● "This is a wonderful resource that removes socio-economic barriers for access to a top-quality news source."

Library patron ● ●

California's nine Cooperative Library Systems received a total of \$3.63 million in **California Library Services Act** funding to support communication and delivery services and resource sharing among libraries in 2021-2022. This funding is administered by the California Library Services Board with staff support from the State Library.



The cooperative systems increase access to library services by helping libraries share materials via inter-library loan and get more for their money through group purchasing. This year, as well as delivering materials between libraries, the systems used their Library Services Act funding to improve broadband connections and purchase and share electronic resources, including eBooks, on-line learning platforms, digital magazines, streaming movies, and digital archives of LGBTQ history and culture.

Expanding Access to Libraries, Museums, and Cultural Institutions



Targeted State Grants The State Library administers funding for 18 libraries, museums, and cultural institutions that received state funding for special projects. Current projects include a new outdoor learning center in the City of Azusa, renovation of the Holocaust Center Library and Archives Building in San Francisco, expansion of the Fairytale Town play park and outdoor museum in Sacramento, and energy and accessibility upgrades in Daly City.



Supporting Library Workers



The **Continuing Education for California Libraries (CALL)** project provides training for California library staff to help them perform their jobs better and improve library services and community engagement.



In 2021-2022, CALL provided training for library staff in 91 percent of California public library jurisdictions through more than 200 live webinars, courses, workshops, and conferences, all provided at no cost to learners. Over 2,000 library staff members registered 3,789 times for events. In addition, CALL provided 24/7 access to over 700 recorded webinars, tutorials, and presentations through CALL Academy, and 1,757 people enrolled and accessed 4,487 learning modules. CALL offered dozens of training opportunities on topics such as having difficult conversations, responding to book challenges, customer service for new frontline staff, and management skills development.

In partnership with California Library Association

●● “... the most incredible professional support effort in the nation. I am continually surprised and excited seeing the mentorship as it stands on the statewide level.”

Public library worker ●●

Library staff from 91 percent of California library jurisdictions participated in CALL

The **Developing Leaders in California Libraries** project is building California's next generation of library leaders. The 2021-2022 cohort included 38 public, academic, school, and law library workers. Teams received leadership training and collaborated on projects that proposed library-based solutions to community challenges. Project staff also interviewed national library leaders about their **Leadership Journey**. These recordings are available for all members of the California library community and feature leaders such as Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, American Library Association President and Assistant Manager at the Palos Verdes Library District; Jill Bourne, City Librarian at San Jose Public Library; Anthony Chow, Director of San Jose State University School of Information; and Shauntee Burns-Simpson, Associate Director at New York Public Library and Immediate Past-President of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association.



In partnership with California Library Association

The **Public Library Staff Education Program (PLSEP)** and **Working Scholars** projects offer pathways for library workers to achieve their educational goals and help ensure local libraries are staffed by skilled professionals.



In 2021-2022, PLSEP provided tuition reimbursement for 95 California public library staff to help them earn a Master's in Library and Information Science. One-third of participants graduated this year and the remaining students will continue their coursework next year.

* In partnership with all California Cooperative Library Systems

●● **"I feel more confident in my abilities as an information professional whether at work when communicating with other peers, or when I am interacting with our customers during special outreach events."**

"I'm not as hesitant to take the lead or speak up, but I'm also trying to help others step up and make room."

Program Participants ●●

●● **"Throughout my coursework, I gained tremendous knowledge about program planning, implementation, and budgeting for all ages, whether conducting community needs assessments or submitting a year-long program proposal for a fictional children's department ... I'm so excited to incorporate these skills into my current position."**

PLSEP recipient ●●

Working Scholars helps public library staff pursue bachelor's degrees. Students are supported as they complete coursework online. Working Scholars enrollees complete their first three years online and then transfer to a university to complete their degree.



Since January 2020, 37 working scholars have become college graduates, and 16 more are currently enrolled in a degree-granting university.

In partnership with Pacific Library Partnership

●● "This program is great (at) helping low income and older students get closer to their dream career by paying for a bachelor's degree."

Working Scholars participant ●●

The **Networking California Library Resources** project provides opportunities for California library workers to connect with, learn from, and support their peers. In 2021-2022, library directors met monthly to share experiences as their libraries transitioned back to in-person services following pandemic closures. They also convened for the annual Public Library Directors Forum focusing on equity, diversity, and inclusion, and contributed to the development of the State Library's new Five Year Plan for Grantmaking. The Project Advisor program connected library staff managing grant-funded projects with expert advisors who offered guidance and support. The Networking project also provided libraries with access to resource-rich websites on core library services including summer programming, volunteerism, and programming for adults.



In partnership with Pacific Library Partnership



For more information about any of the programs and projects included here, please visit the State Library's website:

<https://www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/>

The federally funded projects included in this review were supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act or the American Rescue Plan Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.