Just as opening a new book offers the opportunity to dive into a new story and adventure, so does the start of a New Year. As the start of 2017 fast approaches, we begin an exciting, new chapter at the Altadena Main Library – Phase One Renovations, made possible through a generous grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and assistance from the Altadena Library Foundation.

What makes these updates (explored in more depth below) all the more meaningful is that they fall on the historic 50th Anniversary of the Altadena Library District's Main Building. When first built in the mid-1960s, the Altadena Library was a modern marvel of its time, but after years of loving wear and tear from the visits of thousands of patrons, the building's anniversary presents the perfect opportunity to make crucial updates that begin to bring the building into the 21st century and to honor the Library's rich history and achievements. We are calling this part of the renovations Phase I as we currently lack funding to tackle the major issues that plague our main library and our hope is that with your support, we can start planning a second phase soon. The Phase I renovations will include the following:

**Accessibility and Safety Enhancements**

The Altadena Library states in its mission that it is “dedicated to providing free and equal access to information, ideas, technology and the joy of reading,” and to see that through to its fullest extent, we will be updating shelving and entrances to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), giving all members of our community access to the joys the Library offers. These updates will also bring the doors and stacks up to seismic code compliance.

**A Modern Touch**

With the rise of ever-updating technology has come a change to how Americans view libraries. To keep up with the needs of library patrons that use mobile or hand-held devices and those that view the library as a place to access technology, part of the Phase One Renovation will be adding electrical and data outlets all throughout the Main Building.

**Aesthetic Rejuvenation**

These renovations present a unique opportunity to rejuvenate the overall look and feel of the Library, including updates to carpeting, to flooring and ceiling tiling in the Community Room, and to signage.

**You Spoke and We Listened**

This entire initiative is driven by previously collected feedback from both Library staff and patrons. There will be a brief Library closure during the Phase One Renovation, and our team will be hard at work during that time to ensure a successful re-launch. Great works of art take time, and as we approach this project and the New Year like the start of a new book, we plan to take advantage of every moment dedicated to the project and an artful approach to maximize the benefits for Library patrons and the Altadena community in the future.

Have questions? We have answers! Have suggestions? We want to hear them! Please contact Library Director Mindy Kittay at MKittay@AltadenaLibrary.org or in person at the Library.
Did you know that the Altadena Library owns and displays a very famous painting by George Gardner Symons (1865-1930). The painting is titled Millard Canyon at Granite Gate and was painted in 1898. This large, 70.5” x 50” oil painting which was originally donated by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Fisher many years ago, is in desperate need of restoration. This gorgeous painting of the San Gabriel Mountains above Altadena features intricate geological details and a stunning twilight sunset. The minuscule details such as the railroad car chugging through the Granite Gate in the upper left hand corner of the painting and other details are no longer visible due to discoloration of the shellac. The painting is also cracking due to the weight of the canvas.

Both of these issues can be fixed through the restoration process by removing the old shellac, cleaning the painting and affixing it to a permanent backing structure. But this is not an inexpensive process and we are looking for a benefactor(s) to support the process financially so that we can preserve this beautiful painting and it will remain accessible and viewable to our thousands of visitors each year and for future generations to come.

If you are interested in supporting this project, or any of our other art restorations projects here at the library, please contact Mindy Kittay, Director at 626-798-0833 x 103 or mkittay@altadenalibrary.org.

Thank you for your support of the Altadena Library and have a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year! We look forward to serving you in the New Year,

Mindy

BOB LUCAS MEMORIAL BRANCH

How are we doing?

What an exciting year it has been at the Bob Lucas Branch Library! From new furniture to expanded collections and much needed repairs.

Some things we are especially proud of are the upgrades to our technology. In addition to the 1G Wi-Fi we have added laptops and Chromebooks and new furniture so you can sit and work anywhere you would like in the library. All of our desktops are brand new as well and we added the very special AWE computer which is not connected to the Internet and features safe children’s learning activities built right in.

The new flexible furniture has allowed us to create a more private space for our ESL and Literacy learners and speaking of literacy (and volunteers), you are now able to take the training needed to be a literacy volunteer on-line. This speeds up and makes the process so much easier. Another exciting addition to this aspect of our Branch is the addition of bilingual computer instruction for our ESL learners.

Summer Reading and our craft programs that we offer throughout the year continue to be quite popular. We also offered flu shots in partnership with the Huntington Hospital. Our outreach included a presence at the Latino Cultural Festival at the Main Library in May and a visit to the Altadena Food Truck Friday at the Metropolitan Baptist Church.

We continue to strive to offer you the materials that you want. This year we added Flipster which is downloadable magazines and we also started “Patron Initiated Purchasing” or PIP for short. PIP will get you the book/movie/CD, etc. that you want quickly and easily. If we don’t have something that you would like all you have to do is ask a staff member for it and they will send it over to our Collection Development Department who will (usually), purchase the item and have it in your hands in a week or so. We know you love our DVD’s and we have expanded that collection and extended the checkout to 7 days.

Last June, the Branch was honored by our neighbor, the Seventh Day Adventist church for community service. We continue to encourage class visits for community service. We continue to encourage class visits for community service. We continue to encourage class visits for community service. We continue to encourage class visits for community service. We continue to encourage class visits for community service. We continue to encourage class visits for community service. We continue to encourage class visits for community service. Our goal is to provide you the best possible library thereby giving you the opportunity to reach your full potential. How are we doing?
T-Max and the Todd Washington Trio

It starts with fingers, tapping. You don’t know why, you just do it. It’s an impulse you have, like an electric charge traveling through your limbs, seeking an outlet. In the end, it’s all about the flow. You’re banging beats on school books, on playground equipment, on the windows of the bus. Bap-bubba-bap-bubba-bap-bap-bap. It was always with you.

This is how it began for young Todd Washington, growing up in the inner city of Boston. “Rhythm was the source of what inspired me,” says Washington, looking back on those early years.

He graduated from books to pots and pans. It was all about the flow. He was drawn to it. Headphones over his ears, Hendrix album spinning at 33 RPM, his hands would find the beat and play along. These were the moments that lit the fire. Listening to blues, to jazz, to reggae, to Motown. These were the sparks igniting inspiration. Like the time his mentor ushered him down to that dark, smoky Boston club where legendary jazz drummer Elvin Jones – sideman to titans like Davis, Mingus, and Coltrane – demonstrated the meaning of artistic style with his masterful timing and polyrhythmic percussions. The mark was made early on: Todd Washington was destined to live a life of music.

After high school, he sold his prized drum set for a plane ticket Out West. Nothing was promised, but his talent would find its way. In Los Angeles, he pursued a career in music through a communications degree at Loyola Marymount. Meanwhile, he honed his skill on the bass playing in bands throughout college. He picked up the nickname T-Max, and it stuck, following him as his talent broadened and matured. In time, he developed an affinity for acoustics to compliment his electrics, and he branched out with solo projects as a singer/songwriter. But he never forgot his first love. He never forgot his drums.

“Drums are my mother,” he says. “The bass is my wife.”

“And the guitar?”

He smiles. “The guitar is my girlfriend.”

Perhaps it’s his personality that draws in the audience – easy-going, soulful, with a big heart. And perhaps that’s why he refers to his music as “heart and soul.” Because it doesn’t fit into any one style – it’s born of blues and jazz and pop and folk and a dozen other genres – but it’s more than the sum of its influences. It’s music from the heart. Music from the soul.

T-Max formed the Todd Washington Trio in the 90’s. It’s a constantly evolving group whose diverse stylings can vary with each performance. The Trio has an upcoming gig at the Altadena Library on January 14th at 6:30pm, as part of their popular Second Saturday concert series. The event promises big fun for all audiences, and who knows – maybe even some inspiration for young, rhythmically-inclined musicians.

“It always feels great to do what you love,” says Washington. “And we’re honored to bring some musical diversity and atmosphere to Altadena.”

That the Trio is playing a loud and festive gig inside of a library is just another illustration of their versatility and range. But hey, that’s the way life is, right? Like jazz, you roll with it, and take what comes your way. Because nothing is ever promised, and in the end, it’s all about the flow.

The Teen Department is excited to kick off the new year with a splash. We start off the month with our regular Teen Advisory Board meeting on January 4th. January 5th kicks off our new series of DIY Crafting programs by making Nebula Jars. We’ll explore STEAM on Maker Monday, January 9th as we make marshmallow catapults.

Back by popular demand, Teen Gaming will return on January 19th. Friday movies begin in January with a showing of Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children on January 27th.

You’ll also want to check out the new innovations in the teen space. We’re doing our best to create a dynamic and comfortable environment for your educational and recreational needs.

The library is also recruiting teen volunteers. There are three different opportunities that you might be interested in. First, there are four open spaces on the Teen Advisory Board (TAB). TAB members meet on the first Wednesday of the month where they assist the teen librarian in providing services for teens. Second, regular volunteers who are willing to invest about 2 hours per week to volunteer on an ongoing basis helping with a variety of library tasks from dusting, to pulling lists of books, shelving and more. Third, the library is planning to begin a homework help program. We want to recruit at least six high school age volunteers with GPAs of 3.5 or higher who would be willing to volunteer once a week helping elementary students with their homework.

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Kate, the teen librarian, at kshumaker@altadenalibrary.org.
January LIBRARY CLOSURES
Monday, January 2 CLOSED for New Year's Day Observed
Monday, January 16 CLOSED for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Teen Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 3 at 3:30 to 5 pm

DIY Nebula Jars
Thursday, January 5 from 4 to 5 pm
Teens! Take a study break and create a Nebula Jar.

Ghost Signs Talk and Display
Saturday, January 7 at 2 pm
Ken Jones returns with his highly popular discussion and photos of early 1900s painted advertising on buildings.

Maker Monday Presents Popsicle Stick Catapults
Monday, January 9 from 4 to 6 pm
Teens, create a catapult from popsicle sticks and rubber bands then test and see who can launch a marshmallow higher and farther.

Friends of the Library Meeting
Monday, January 9 at 7:30 pm

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, January 10 from 7 to 8 pm

Author Presentation: For the Love of Money – Sam Polk
Saturday, January 14 from 4 to 6 pm
Former hedge fund trader Sam Polk is a writer, co-founder and CEO of Everytable, a social enterprise that sells fresh, delicious meals at prices everyone can afford, and the founder and executive director of Groceryships.

Second Saturday Concert with The Todd Washington Trio
Saturday, January 14
from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
The Todd Washington Trio will entertain with a mix of blues, folk, rock, soul and gospel.

Teen Game Day
Thursday, January 19 from 4 to 6 pm
Teens ages 12 to 19 are invited to gather with their friends and enjoy a variety of board games, party games, and video games. We have a Playstation 4, WiiU, and several board games, like King of Tokyo, Apples to Apples, Jenga, and classics like chess. Snacks served while supplies last. Bring your own board and video games (for PS4 or the Wii U) as long as they are not rated M. This program is FREE and generously sponsored by the The Friends of the Library.

Fun Flick Friday at the Bob Lucas Branch
Friday, January 20 at 3:30 pm – Branch
Join us after school for an animated adventure Storks. FREE Popcorn!

Library Board of Trustees Meetings
Regular meeting: Monday, January 23 at 5 pm
WITH ADDITIONAL SPECIAL BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 10 TO INTERVIEW FOR A PROSPECTIVE NEW BOARD MEMBER

Teen Film: Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children
Friday, January 27 at 3:30 pm

Pirate Treasure Box and Mini Scavenger Hunt
Thursday, January 26 at 3:30 at Bob Lucas Branch
Ahoy mateys! Come see what lost treasures and doubloons you can find hidden in Davey Jones’ locker with our ancient map. Find hidden booty all around the library! Argh! For children 3 and up. While supplies last. Bob Lucas Library is located at 2659 Lincoln Avenue in Altadena.
Bob Lucas Library’s internet backbone was cut-over to the Cenic 1 gigabit network as a spoke of the Altadena Library Main building. The desktop computers for the district were upgraded to Windows 10 all-in-one computers with Microsoft Office Standard Edition installed on them and a host of other yummy software. Lenovo T420 laptops were provisioned with the same setup, and we have increased availability for use inside the library to eight hours. The existing Chromebooks available for use inside the library are now available for eight hours at a time, as well.

Altadena Library pushed the envelope further by granting administrative access to the patrons to be able to install whatever software they wish while using the computers, except the Chromebooks; this capability gives the patrons the same feel as using a personal computer – in the Library. The computers revert to their original state upon restart.

The District’s computer fleet in raw numbers was greatly increased, and simultaneously reduced square footage occupied, carbon footprint, and wait times for a computer; it is a fleet large enough to completely forgo a reservation system. There is always a computer at Altadena Library District, in some form, ready to serve a member of the community.

The system regulating computer time for the desktops and that controls printing was upgraded to the latest version of the software; this made possible a print over Wi-Fi system with the laptops, excluding Chromebooks. The print over Wi-Fi system also works with patrons own devices.

3D printers emerged from a grant awarded in the teen department, and the District computers’ software was updated to include 3D modeling and printing software. Skype headphones are now available upon request. A 65” 4k flat-screen television is now in the teen area. Broadcasting headphones were made available for use with the teen television or other devices to send the audio to the headset anywhere in the library. For hygienic purposes, headphones shifted from borrowed to purchase at $3 each ($2 earbuds).

Self-checkout machines have been installed in strategic locations within the library to shorten your wait times and provide you with privacy.

Our people counters were upgraded at the Main library to better assist management by providing actionable information about peak times. Office 365 –Microsoft Office Pro Plus has been made available to all patrons with fines under $25, and those who have checked out an item within the past 3 months; this includes 1 free Terabyte, with a T! of storage in the cloud. Accounts falling outside the aforesaid parameters go into a disabled state until the requirements are met, and become active again on the following Monday.

Our community room saw an upgrade to its projector, sound system, and multi-media technology. Video of events is available for hosts, presentation via one’s tablet or phone is now possible, ADA compliant assisted listening devices are available, and four simultaneous wireless microphones can operate anywhere within the room without feedback; also, a Blu-ray player has been installed.

Mobile staff perches have been built to be able to fully assist the public on the fly from anywhere within the Library. Two additional interactive computer AWE stations were deployed for Children; two now reside at the Main Library, and one resides at the Bob Lucas Branch Library – for a total of three units.

Our phone system was converted to VOIP. The District’s Wi-Fi infrastructure was upgraded to ‘second to none’ status. An intranet was created to assist with internal operations, and an ongoing technology training program has begun to develop staff skills to better assist the public with technology related topics. The bulk of our servers are now virtualized to reduce our carbon footprint, rack-space, and administrative overhead.

Oh, and the Library was just awarded a grant for a Nomad:

https://nomadavsystems.com/audio-visual-systems/digital-av-podium/

Goals for 2017

For sure: More power outlets for the public. 360 degree video. A MakerSpace (FabLab) with quality hardware and software to go with it. New software to support the Summer reading program. CCTV system upgrade.


Wishes: Tablets/computers for checkout, and usage at home. Mobile access points for the public to checkout. RFID. Tablet tables. Expansion of the physical facility by means of virtual reality... anything is possible!
Children

A Butterfly is Patient by Diana Hutts Aston. A little bit of patience, a little bit of creativity, and a little bit of helpfulness are all you need to become your wonderful self. The same goes for butterflies!

My 100 Adventures by Polly Horvath. Jane is 12 years old, and she is ready for adventure. And, over the course of one summer, she gets them in droves. But Jane discovers what lies at the heart of all great adventures: that it’s not what happens to you that matters, but what you learn about yourself.

Teens

If I Was Your Girl by Meredith Russo. After being brutally bullied, Amanda moves to a new town and a new school where she can openly live as herself.

The Beginning of Everything by Robyn Schneider. When an accident changes Ezra’s future in a single incident, he must create his new identity and future.

How to Keep a Boy from Kissing You by Tara Eglington. Aurora has always wanted to save her first kiss for someone special, but when she is cast as the lead in Shakespeare’s Much Ado about Nothing, she sets out on a quest to find her true love and have the perfect first kiss.

Girl Against the Universe by Paula Stokes. Maguire brings bad luck to those around her and does her best to stay away from people. When she meets Jordy, she can’t stay away. Maguire must break her unlucky streak for a new beginning.

The Year We Fell Apart by Emily Martin. Harper has made a lot of mistakes including becoming estranged from her friend Declan. Two semesters have passed and Declan is back. Harper desperately tries to save her friendship.

Adults

The Dog Diet Answer Book: the complete nutrition guide to help your dog live a happier, healthier, and longer life by Greg Martinez, DVM. Informing yourself about the diet you provide your four-legged best friend will help you both have a healthier 2017. Print and eBook

The Courage Solution: the power of truth telling with your boss, peers, and team by Mindy Mackenzie. Are you wanting a happier work environment in the new year? Read on to find out you are the start of transformation. Print and eBook

O’s Little Book of Happiness by the editors of O, the Oprah Magazine. A collection of the best essays that appeared in O Magazine, will provide you with advice and inspire you to have a joyful new year. Audiobook, eBook and e-Audiobook

Retox: yoga *food* attitude healthy solutions for real life by Lauren Imparato. In an easy to read format, Imparato teaches you how to utilize yoga postures and good nutrition to create a healthier body, better equipped to work and play hard in the new year. Print, eBook and Spanish language eBook

Life Reimagined: the science, art, and opportunity of midlife by Barbara Bradley Hagerty. Debunking the myth of the “midlife crisis,” Hagerty explores how the forties and beyond can actually be a time for you to flourish and have great adventure. Print, Audiobook, and eBook
Sam Polk’s *For the Love of Money* is his unflinching memoir about coming of age on Wall Street, fighting to overcome the ghosts of his past – and the radical new way he now defines success. At just thirty years old, Sam Polk was a senior trader for one of the biggest hedge funds on Wall Street, on the verge of making it to the very top. When he was offered an annual bonus of $3.75 million, he grew angry because it was not enough. In that moment he knew he had lost himself in his obsessive pursuit of money. And he had come to loathe the culture – the shallowness, the sexism, the crude machismo – and Wall Street’s use of wealth as the sole measure of a person’s worth. He decided to walk away from it all – for the new way he has come to define success.

Polk brings readers into the rarefied world of Wall Street trading floors, capturing the modern frustrations of young graduates drawn to Wall Street. Raw, vivid, and immensely readable.

Sam Polk is also the Co-founder and CEO of Everytable and the founder and Executive Director of the non-profit Groceryships. Sam grew up in LA and witnessed the city’s inequality while helping his mom run homeless medical clinics in Skid Row. Years later, after noticing families in low-income areas struggling with access to healthy food, he started Groceryships – an LA-based nonprofit that works at the intersection of poverty and food-related illnesses like diabetes and obesity, and was the inspiration behind co-founders Sam Polk and David Foster later creating Everytable. Their program’s mission is to improve long-term health and wellness in low-income communities by creating a network of educational support groups and enhancing access to healthy, unprocessed foods. By working with small groups of families for long periods of time and providing education, temporary financial support, resources, and a sacred space for each person to share about their struggles and triumphs, they are able to change people’s lives from the inside out.

*They believe that this one change in a single person can have a ripple effect through a family, a community, a city, a nation, and eventually a world.*

Everytable is a new LA-based social enterprise offering nutritious meals through convenient grab-and-go locations, for less. Everytable is on a mission to bring communities together through healthy food that everyone can afford.

The Altadena Library is excited to bring Mr. Polk to the library on Saturday January 14 at 4pm to discuss and sign his book and to talk about his nonprofit Groceryships and his social enterprise Everytable.
UPCOMING EVENTS February

Teen Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 1 at 3:30 to 5 pm

DIY Duct Tape Creations
Thursday, February 2 from 4 to 5 pm
Teens! Take a study break and make Duct Tape Creations.

Poetry with Suzanne Lummis
Saturday, February 4 at 1 pm
A workshop suitable for poets at all levels, or for those who have not yet tried their hand at poetry. Imagery, voice and sources for inspiration will be explored, and participants will evolve one new poem, or material for a poem, in response to a writing prompt.

Anime Your Way Teen Workshop
Saturday, February 4 from 3 to 5 pm
Using simple shapes and easy to understand instructions, participants will gain an insight into the world of anime drawing and come away with the knowledge and confidence to create their very own stylized anime characters. Anime Your Way draws from art, history, reading, geometry and creative writing! All materials are included.

Friends of the Library Meeting
Monday, February 6 at 7:30 pm

Second Saturday Concert with Louis Van Taylor Quintet
Saturday, February 11 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Join us for live music with the Louis Van Taylor Quintet – a unique mix of jazz, blues and funk. Music, Beverages, Food, Deserts and Dancing!

Maker Monday Presents Kinetic Sand
Monday, February 13 from 4 to 6 pm
Teens, spend some time hanging out while using STEAM skills to make Kinetic Sand. Explore how the sand interacts with the environment while crafting your designs.

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, February 14 from 7 to 8 pm

Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, February 27 at 5 pm

Phase I Renovation CLOSURES
The MAIN LIBRARY will be closing for the Phase I Renovation from March 12 to April 30.
The Branch Library will have extended open hours during this time. Check the website for updates and information on days/hours. www.altadenalibrary.org/programs
Thank you for your patience while we make these much needed upgrades.

Main Library
600 East Mariposa Street
Altadena CA 91001
626-798-0833

Hours
Monday and Tuesday
10 am to 9 pm
Wednesday through Saturday
10 am to 6 pm

Passport Office (Main Library)
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
626-798-2950
Monday and Tuesday
10 am to 8 pm
Wednesday through Saturday
10 am to 6 pm

Bob Lucas Branch
2659 Lincoln Avenue
Altadena CA 91001
626-798-8338

Hours
Monday, Tuesday & Friday
10 am to 6 pm
Wednesday and Thursday
10 am to 8 pm

www.AltadenaLibrary.org

Become a Friend of the Library
The Friends of the Library meet on the first Monday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 pm in the Community Room. You do not have to be a member to attend. For info go to AltadenaLibrary.org/friends-library

“The healing place of the soul”
Inscription over the door of the library of Thebes.

SMILE
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