MESSAGE FROM
THE DIRECTOR

I must begin by acknowledging my gratitude to you – our amazing community – for your support of the Altadena Library District over the past year.

Thank you to our Board of Trustees and our volunteers for your passion, commitment, and ongoing efforts for our libraries. Thank you to our Friends and Foundation for your enthusiastic advocacy and unwavering support. Thank you to our highly capable, dedicated staff for using your talents and skills to provide tremendous service to our patrons daily. Thank you to local businesses, nonprofits and organizations who partner with us for events and programs that engage our community. And finally, thank you to the thousands of patrons who proudly champion our libraries and bring value to all we do.

It is thanks to this incredible support that we have been able to fully embark on our next chapter, a renovation project to repair, modernize, and improve both buildings so that we can provide all residents of our community with full access to everything our libraries offer.

Our progress in this complicated process is significant. In the past year, we brought Anderson Brulé Architects onboard the project and established a focus group with community representatives who provide invaluable feedback and local perspective. We further increased efforts to garner resident input through an online survey and virtual town halls, and we engaged expert consultants to conduct utility surveys, seismic and other evaluations in preparation for the building upgrades.

After successfully negotiating the challenges of the past two years, I am thrilled about the future we envision for the Altadena Libraries. Our plan to ensure continuity of library services during future building closures includes the addition of a second mobile library, exploring local options for a satellite facility, and embracing innovative methods to meet our community’s needs, such as library materials vending machines. In the near term, we endeavor to continue building community engagement through expanded outreach programs (such as an updated Read Local, Shop Local), targeted communications, and enhanced resources (watch for our fabulous new Fab Lab).

It is an honor to serve the giving residents and organizations of Altadena, and we are focused on making our community a place where all are learning, growing, and thriving together.

Respectfully,

Nikki Winslow
District Director
The Altadena Library District’s strategic framework and priorities -- we are ... curious, connectors, and neighbors -- helps guide our operations, programs and services. These are just a few of the highlights that demonstrate our staff’s amazing efforts during the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

July 2021
The Curiosity Connection, the District’s mobile library and engine for community engagement, became a regular attendee at community events, including the wildly popular summer concert series hosted by the Rotary Club of Altadena at Farnsworth Park.

Families were invited to stroll the grounds of the Main Library, enjoying the StoryWalk® of “Family Reunion” by Chad and Dad Richardson, a poetic depiction of a Black American extended family that celebrates the importance of kinship and inter-generational ties.

The annual summer reading program wrapped up, during which Altadena Libraries distributed more than 600 kits to children and teens and held 68 virtual and in-person programs with 1,000 attendees.

Our Mission
The Altadena Library District brings people and ideas together.
September 2021
As part of a blooming partnership with L.A. Compost and Arlington Garden in Pasadena, Altadena Libraries hosted an afternoon of garden fun with sun prints and zines, learning the ABCs of compost, and a plant-based scavenger hunt.

The teen volunteer program officially relaunched.

Back as an in-person event, Taste of ‘Dena was a resounding success. Over 100 people attended, and thanks to the generosity of our neighbors and community, the Altadena Library Foundation raised more than $30,000 to help support the library and its programs and services.

October 2021
More than 400 community members celebrated the 30th anniversary of the reopening of the Bob Lucas Memorial Library and Literacy Center on October 16. Several members of Bob Lucas’ family spoke at the event and presented the District with a $2,000 donation.

(Clockwise from top) Library staff guide children in a scavenger hunt at the Arlington Garden in Pasadena on September 18, 2021. Several generations of Bob Lucas’ family attend the 30th anniversary of the reopening of the branch library named in his honor. Children and families enjoy crafts and other fun during the Bob Lucas Library celebration.
International chanteuse Morganne kicked off the return of the Second Saturday concert series with a night of electric fusion jazz, Latin, and blues music in the Main Library parking lot.


**November 2021**

Autumn fun kicked off with a nod to nature with the Fall Frolic program.

Registered community members voted at the libraries and Patticakes for their Altadena Town Council representative.

Author and social change advocate Ariel Henley discussed her memoir, “A Face for Picasso: Coming of Age with Crouzon Syndrome,” with the Altadena Library.

**December 2021**

Altadena Library participated in the first annual Altadena Sip and Shop, a holiday shopping event at Mariposa Junction (Lake and Mariposa). Hundreds of people from the community turned out to enjoy music, food trucks, and fun!

Building Projects Progress

*Thanks to the incredible support of the community through the passage of Measure Z in 2020, the Altadena Library District has embarked on an ambitious multi-year project to repair, modernize, and improve the Main and the Bob Lucas Memorial Library. The project has been dubbed: The Next Chapter for the Altadena Libraries.*

In late 2021, the District hired Anderson Brulé Architects (ABA) as the architectural firm for the renovation project. ABA assisted in the development of a survey that was shared with the community.

The District’s Ad-Hoc Facilities Committee established a Community Focus Group (CFG), a small group of community representatives that provide feedback and assist in identifying when wider community engagement is helpful. They met in December 2021 and in the following months.

Consultants were engaged to conduct fire flow testing, hazardous materials surveys, and underground utility surveys at both locations. In addition, topographical and geotechnical surveys were conducted for the Bob Lucas Library, and the Main Library received a Tier 3 (Seismic) evaluation.

The District and ABA shared design schematics for the Bob Lucas Library with the CFG and hosted Town Hall meetings with the wider community in March 2021.
January 2022
Though the library buildings closed for a few weeks, the collection, services, and other library resources were fully available to patrons with curbside services, electronic access, and remote reference support.

The Library of Things special collection continued to grow, adding items like the Digital Documentarian Kit (a digital camera, wireless shooting grip, microphone, and accessories). By spring, the collection expanded to include puppetry kits and additional fun and useful items.

February 2022
Outdoor storytimes and virtual programming returned, including the popular “Quiet Space” evening meditation series.

In honor of Black History Month, Altadena Library District blogged about four African Americans, both past and present, who made a significant impact or contribution to Altadena. Those included were literacy gladiator Bob Lucas, artist/activist Charles White, educator and civil rights activist Ellen Garrison Clark, and Michelle Hoskins, dedicated library staff member who retired in February after 42 years of service to the community.

March 2022
Altadena Library began a partnership with Huntington Hospital to offer patrons free health counseling and screenings once a month.

In honor of World Puppetry Day, Altadena Library showcased puppet programs on how to make a rod puppet, how to tell a story with puppets, and a performance by The Bob Baker Marionette.

Classical music returned to the library with the popular Mt. Lowe Chamber Players performing Bach, Sousa, and other composers on March 27.

The Altadena Chamber of Commerce, with support from Altadena Libraries, hosted a Women in Science virtual talk with keynote speaker Jocelyn Ferguson, chief development officer at Huntington Medical Research Institutes.

April 2022
The Altadena community celebrated National Library Week with a bookmark contest, special storytimes with the Altadena Library Foundation and Friends of the Altadena Library, and connecting with the Curiosity Connection at community businesses.

Young nature lovers learned about metamorphosis in a hands-on program raising butterflies at Bob Lucas Memorial Library.

Peter J. Harris and Carla R. Sameth were announced as the new Altadena Poets Laureate for 2022-24 during the annual Poetry & Cookies event.

District staff shared information about library programs and services during the first Night Market.
May 2022
LitFest Pasadena brought together acclaimed authors and new voices in powerful literary and social conversations attended by dozens of community members at the Altadena Library.

Adult learners and volunteer literacy tutors attended a celebration lunch at the Bob Lucas Memorial Library and Literacy Center.

June 2022
The District launched summer reading programs for children, teens, and adults with a grand kickoff celebration at the Main Library. It featured games, crafts, food, and amazing performances by Ballet Folclórico do Brasil and musician Michael Haggins.

The Altadena Libraries – in partnership with Altadena Historical Society, LA Conservancy, and Sapphos Environmental – hosted a Juneteenth Celebration to honor the legacies and lives of Altadena African Americans and their contributions to the community. The Ellen Garrison Clark scholarship was also awarded to two local high school students.

(Clockwise from top) Assemblymember Chris Holden presents proclamations to the Ellen Garrison Clark Scholarship awardees at the 2022 Juneteenth Celebration. Ballet Folclórico do Brasil performs. Patrons enjoy crafts and fun at the summer reading kickoff event. Adult learners and volunteer tutors lunch together in celebration at the Bob Lucas Memorial Library.
**Financial Spotlight**

The District sold $21.125 million in premium bonds, netting bond proceeds of $23 million. These funds will be used for upcoming renovations to both library buildings.
ALD
By the Numbers

400,148
Virtual Visits to Library Website

74,340
Annual Number of Wireless Sessions

6,141
Annual Uses of Public Internet Computers

5,135
MONTHLY DIGITAL (AVERAGE) CIRCULATION

83,000+
YOUTUBE VIDEO VIEWS

12,380
HOURS OF YOUTUBE WATCH TIME

168,032
Number of checkouts of physical items (books, movies, music, etc.) throughout the year

72,572
VISITORS TO LIBRARIES

7,444
REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

2,334
NEW LIBRARY CARDS ISSUED

559
TOTAL EVENTS/PROGRAMS

8,324
ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS/PROGRAMS
Friends of the Altadena Library

Established in 1959, the Friends of the Altadena Library organization is committed to supporting the District by generating public interest in our libraries, assisting with funding to purchase materials, and underwriting cultural and educational programs. Thank you to all of the Friends (July 2021-June 2022) for your dedication, hard work, and passion for our libraries!

Learn more and get involved at www.altadenalibrary.org/friends
Altadena Library Foundation

The Altadena Library Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and enriching the facilities, services, and resources of the Altadena Libraries. We are incredibly thankful to our Fiscal Year 2021-2022 donors.

The Altadena Library Foundation brings people, ideas, and resources together through fundraising and advocacy. To learn more about our efforts and to get involved, please visit www.altadenalibraryfoundation.org.

We apologize for any errors or omissions in this acknowledgement of gifts. If you have a correction, please email us at manager@altadenalibraryfoundation.org.
Main Library
600 E. Mariposa Street
Altadena, California 91001
Phone: (626) 798-0833

Hours
Monday & Tuesday: 10:00am – 8:00pm
Wednesday – Friday: 10:00am – 6:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday: Closed

Bob Lucas Memorial Library & Literacy Center
2659 Lincoln Avenue
Altadena, California 91001
Phone: (626) 798-8338

Hours
Monday – Friday: 10:00am – 6:00pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

www.AltadenaLibrary.org
@AltadenaLibrary