



MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

When I look back at what our organization, staff, volunteers, and partners have accomplished over the past year, I am amazed and overwhelmed with gratitude to be part of this incredible community.

This year has been an extraordinary journey, and I want to thank all of you for your passion, commitment, and ongoing efforts to support our libraries. Thank you to our Board of Trustees, volunteers, Friends and Foundation for your enthusiastic advocacy, time, and unwavering support. A huge thank you to our amazing staff, who bring an infectious energy and effort to work hard to our libraries every day. Thank you to the local businesses that partner with us in the Read Local, Shop Local program, as well as the nonprofit and other organizations that partner with us in outreach and programming to engage our community.

And, of course, we are always grateful to everyone who participates in our programs, utilizes our resources, and visits our libraries. We are humbled by your support and committed to serving your needs.

Our efforts the past couple of years reflect our dedication to continually improving our resources and services. We have increased our outreach and our footprint in the community with new technologies, including a user app and two library materials vending machines, one at Prime Pizza and one destined for the west side of Altadena. We updated the Read Local, Shop Local program, relaunched our fabulous Fab Lab with a bevy of new equipment, expanded our Library of Things collection, and extended access hours at the Main Library. We also added a new van, dubbed the Curiosity Connection Volume Two, which will allow us to better support Little Free Libraries and provide new services like Homebound Delivery to bring our resources to everyone in our community.

As we look forward, we will soon begin work preserving, protecting, and restoring our libraries, beginning with the Bob Lucas Memorial Library & Literacy Center in spring 2024. These efforts will improve the look, safety, and access of our libraries, making them fun, flexible spaces for future generations of Altadena residents.

Thanks to your support, we plan to expand the footprint of the branch library by 50% and add an outdoor reading court. Renovations should take about a year and once complete, the branch library will reopen, and the Main Library will close to begin its update and restoration. We hope to reopen the Main Library in late 2026, just in time to celebrate the Altadena Library District centennial!

We are excited about the future, and we can't wait to share it with you.

Respectfully,



Nikki Winslow
District Director

Our Mission

The Altadena Library District
brings people and ideas together.

ALTADENA LIBRARY DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

Terry Andruess
Jason Capell
Katie Clark
Boon Lim
Kameelah Waheed Wilkerson

Highlights 2022-2023

We are curious. We are connectors. We are neighbors.

Along with our mission, the Altadena Library District's strategic framework guides our operations, services, and events. Here are some highlights from our programming, partnerships, and staff's incredible endeavors from July 2022 to June 2023.

July 2022

The Altadena Library District (ALD) launched its myLIBRO app, which allows users to search the catalog, place materials on hold, view the events calendar, follow social channels, and more.

Staff and the Curiosity Connection support Concerts in the Park, hosted by the Rotary Club of Altadena.

Linda Illumanardi was announced as the Altadena Libraries' first



Artist in Residence. A local botanical printer, Illumanardi received a Picerne Family Foundation grant to teach free botanical printing and natural dyeing classes to the community for a year.

The 2022 Summer Reading program — which grew tremendously over the previous year — wrapped up with an end-of-summer party featuring the Susie Hansen Latin Band.

Linda Illumanardi



Summer Reading 2022 Roundup



2022-2023 Highlights



Photo by Deb Squared Photo

(Left photo) Altadena residents gather for the premiere 2022-23 Altadena Poets Laureate event in August 2022. (Middle photo, left to right) Altadena Town Council member Veronica Jones, Altadena Town Council member Victoria Knapp, Senator Anthony Portantino, Congresswoman Judy Chu, Altadena Library Director Nikki Winslow, Altadena Library Board Trustee Jason Capell, Field Representative Ann Marie Hickambottom for Assemblymember Chris Holden, Altadena Town Council member Nic Arnzen, and Altadena Library Foundation Board of Directors President Bridget Brewster celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Main Library. Dancers from INCA, The Peruvian Ensemble, perform at the 55th anniversary celebration.

August 2022

The new Altadena Poets Laureate Carla R. Sameth and Peter J. Harris kicked off the 2022-2023 season with an event at the Main Library on Aug. 24. More than 75 people attended, and the video of the event has been viewed over 100 times.

The district celebrated the 55th anniversary of the Main Library on Aug. 28 with more than 400 people in attendance to recognize the milestone. Congresswoman Judy Chu gave a moving presentation about the importance of libraries in society and for the community of Altadena. The library was also recognized by Senator Anthony Portantino, Assemblymember Chris Holden, and members of the Altadena Town Council.

September 2022

Author and Buddhist monk Khentru Lodrö T'hayé Rinpoche discussed his latest book, "The Power of Mind: A Tibetan Monk's Guide to Finding Freedom in Every Challenge," at the Main Library. The library also screened the short documentary film "First to Go: Story of the Kataoka Family," and director/producer Myles Matsuno led a Q&A following the screening. Both events were well received by the community.

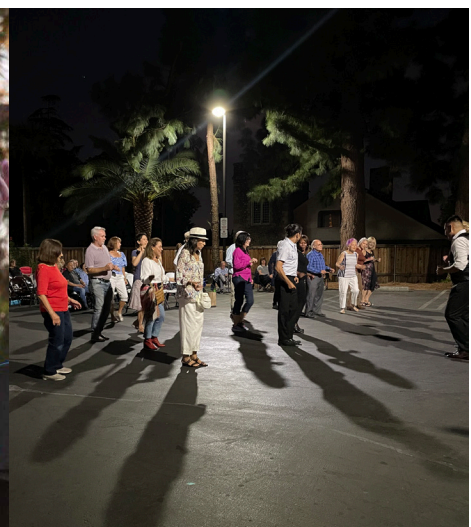
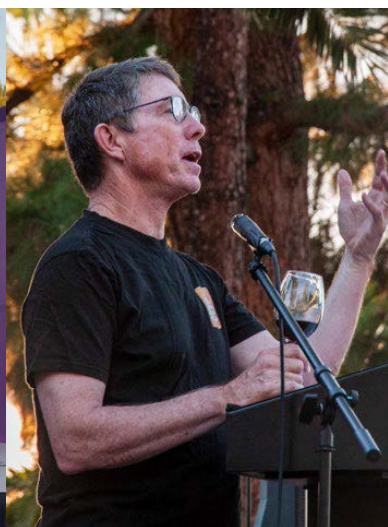
On Saturday, Sept. 24, the Altadena Library Foundation welcomed almost 200 guests to its sixth annual Taste of 'Dena at the Main Library. The event raised more than \$35,000 to help fund the outreach, literacy, and community-building initiatives of the Altadena Libraries.

October 2022

In partnership with CHA CHA, California Clean Air Day, Altadena Heritage, Rotary Club of Altadena, and other partners, the Altadena Library celebrated Clean Air Week by hosting a walk to school on Clean Air Day event, online seminars, a walkabout, a tour of the Bob Lucas regenerative garden, a green zone tour at the Main Library, and a 1000 Yardscapes Challenge.

Second Saturday returned for a new season, kicking off with Sangre Nueva.

(Left photo, left to right) Altadena Library Assistant Director Ashley Watts, Director Nikki Winslow, Senator Anthony Portantino, and Altadena Library Foundation Board of Directors President Bridget Brewster celebrate Taste of 'Dena. (Center photos, from left) Teen librarian Isabelle Briggs and Foundation member Mark Mariscal speak at Taste of 'Dena. Altadena residents dance to Sangre Nueva at Second Saturday.



Friends of the Altadena Library held its semi-annual book sale on Oct. 15. Thanks to the help of staff, the Boys & Girl Scouts, and teen volunteers, they moved the sale inside due to rain.

The Bob Lucas Library hosted the Blue Submarine. Attendees got up close and personal with tide pool animals, such as sea stars, sea urchins, sea slugs, and more. The library also hosted multiple events celebrating Día de los Muertos.

November 2022

In honor of Native American Heritage month, the district hosted Tina Calderon, a Culture Bearer of Gabrielino, Tongva, Chumash, and Yoeme descent, who shared stories, songs, and the history of the Gabrielino Tongva peoples.

The district and Altadena Library Foundation were honored by the Pasadena Community Foundation at a breakfast. The Pasadena Community Foundation provided the library foundation with a \$20,000 grant in the Building Community category to reimagine the Fab Lab.

The Main Library Fab Lab had a soft relaunch and introduced Fab Lab Foundations, a series of workshops designed to help the community learn more about the tools available in this DIY space.

The Altadena Poets Laureate held two events in November: See You, Photos of Joy Writing Workshop at the Bob Lucas Memorial Library and Synergies, an innovative workshop led by Peter J. Harris with special guest dancer/actress Perris

McCracken and musician Alan Mark Lightner at the Main Library.

Master gardener Brienna McWade and L.A. Compost's Maggie McCabe held a gardening session for kids at the Bob Lucas Memorial Library.

The Board of Trustees held a special meeting to hear from the candidates for an open board position, and Boon Lim was selected as the new Trustee.



Trustee Boon Lim



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 design process for the Bob Lucas Library additions & renovation reached a new milestone. In August 2022, the library district provided the Design Development documents for review, shared them at outreach events, and welcomed community feedback through comment cards and an online survey.

The design documents then went to the Board of Trustees and were approved in late September. The library district began working with the County of Los Angeles Planning Department to acquire a Conditional Use Permit, which is required to obtain building permits.

The district also received word in September that it was awarded \$7.5 million in infrastructure grants from the California State Library to be used for renovations and upgrades.

The special tax funding the building projects appeared on local property tax bills in October 2022.



Main Library Preliminary Design

In early February, the district, Rachlin Partners, and Anderson Brulé Architects presented preliminary schematic designs for the Main Library renovation and again welcomed feedback from the community.



(Photos, left to right) Thousands of locals celebrate the 100th annual Christmas Tree Lane Lighting Ceremony, which was postponed due to the pandemic. Altadena gardeners get a lesson in fruit tree pruning at the Altadena Community Garden. Altadena Poet Laureate Peter J. Harris hosts SongAgain, a musical tapestry event at the Main Library for Black History Month.

December 2022

The district partnered with the Altadena Chamber of Commerce for the Sip N' Shop event, attended by hundreds of locals.

In partnership with the Christmas Tree Lane Association, the Main Library closed early on the second Saturday for the Tree Lighting Ceremony & Winter Festival (the first time since the pandemic). Elected officials and thousands of people were in attendance.

Both libraries held plenty of holiday events, such as winter crafts and storytimes, as well as a district-themed lotería night.

January 2023

The Read Local, Shop Local program had a 2023 makeover, moving from a business discount to a rewards program that provides exclusive ALD merchandise to residents who show their rewards card at participating businesses.

The Bob Lucas Library staff partnered with the Altadena Community Garden for a fruit tree care workshop.

Music played throughout the month at Main. The Mt. Lowe Chamber

Players performed, and *Mighty Love* kicked off the second half of the Second Saturday season.

In 2019, ALD committed to establishing five board of trustee districts in Altadena, rather than seats being At-large. During the Board of Trustees' January meeting, the National Demographics Corporation, the district's demographic consultant, held a short presentation and open discussion about the redistricting process. Community members were invited to provide feedback about how they wanted to see district boundaries drawn.

February 2023

Celebrating diversity and Black History Month, the library staff put together a full program of events. These included SongAgain, a program led by Poet Laureate Peter J. Harris with guest poets and musicians creating an entrancing sonic tapestry, a movie screening and book discussion of "The Hate U Give," storytimes, and an author talk (in partnership with the Altadena Historical Society) with William Gould, who discussed his book, "Diary of a Contraband: The Civil War Passage of a Black Sailor."

March 2023

Altadena residents were invited to provide feedback on drafts of the

redistricting maps provided by the National Demographics Corporation.

ALD partner Huntington Health provided a fentanyl education workshop to the community.

Altadena historian Michele Zack shared the civic story and ongoing legacy of Owen Brown, a program made possible by Pasadena Village. She discussed Owen Brown's life, legacy in the community, and challenges faced in establishing access and restoration of his grave site.

April 2023

April was all about partnerships. The Carnegie Science Observatories partnered with the library to host a stargazing event at the Bob Lucas Memorial Library. More than 100 people gathered to contemplate the universe.

Pasadena Village and chef Gloria Felix of Chefs for Seniors- Pasadena provided a healthy cooking demo for older adults to a packed Community Room.

The Fab Lab staff partnered with the Corita Art Center and presented "Approaches to Artmaking," honoring Corita Kent and exploring her unique ways of making art.



The Poets Laureate held a special reading to celebrate National Poetry month and the annual Poetry & Cookies.

Noteworthy Puppets performed for Día.

In partnership with LA Compost, staff at the Bob Lucas Memorial Library held a compost 101 session, explaining how the three-bin system at that location works and inviting the community to register for the co-op.

The Board of Trustees adopted a new districting map.

May 2023

Friends of the Altadena Library held its spring book sale.

Dozens of people attended two Litfest in the 'Dena events hosted at the Altadena Library: a tribute to Eric Priestley and the Enduring Legacy of Black Culture and the Arts and Surviving the Literary Life, a panel discussion with local artists.

The Bob Lucas Library had a May the 4th Be With You program while the Main Library hosted a special lion dance performance to celebrate Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage month.

The Carnegie Science Observatories planted a planetarium at the Main Library, the Mt. Lowe Chamber Players returned for a reed quintets concert, and Mad Science put on an interactive show of Fire and Ice.

The Altadena Library Foundation was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the

Tournament of Roses Foundation House to expand our Library of Things collection.

June 2023

Summer Reading 2023 kicked off with an engaging event attended by 400+ people. Participants perused a 12-page summer program for details about the 60+ events planned for the summer.

Two dozen local authors applied for a chance to appear at Indie Author Night.

Local resident and Bob Lucas Library adult learner Young Hwa Choi won the advanced writer category in a writing contest hosted annually by the Southern California Library Literacy Network, a nonprofit organization established in 1985. Originally from South Korea, Young has been taking classes and working with volunteer Ralph Goldstein for one-on-one tutoring sessions for the past couple of years.

Partnering with community organizations, the Altadena Library hosted the opening ceremony for the second annual Altadena LGBTQ+

Pride Walkabout. Library staff also held several events to celebrate Pride Week, from Pride-themed storytimes to a Fab Lab session with artist Rachel Curry to create personal banners.

The Altadena Town Council and Altadena Library collaborated with the library's Artist in Residence Linda Illumanardi on community sessions for residents to create botanical prints, some of which will be used in an Altadena community quilt.

Groovis Maximus drew a crowd for the last Second Saturday of the season on June 10.

The Main Library hosted "In Celebration of Juneteenth – The Remarkable Work of Jean Estelle (Gray) Lanier," a memorial art exhibition celebrating the life and works of Jean Lanier.



(Photos, from top, clockwise) Attendees enjoy a puppet performance at the 2023 Summer Reading kickoff event. Children enjoy African Dance Rhythms with Teresa Smith at the Bob Lucas Library. Library patrons get a close up with slimy and squishy marine life at the branch library.

Altadena Library District

By the Numbers

483,470

Virtual Visits to Library Website

106,565

Annual Number of Wireless Sessions

8,666

Annual Uses of Public Internet Computers

4,180

MONTHLY DIGITAL (AVERAGE) CIRCULATION

43,200

YOUTUBE VIDEO VIEWS

4,940

HOURS OF YOUTUBE WATCH TIME



CIRCULATION

206,856

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

VISITS TO LIBRARIES

123,628

REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

6,479

NEW LIBRARY CARDS ISSUED

3,535

TOTAL EVENTS/PROGRAMS

677

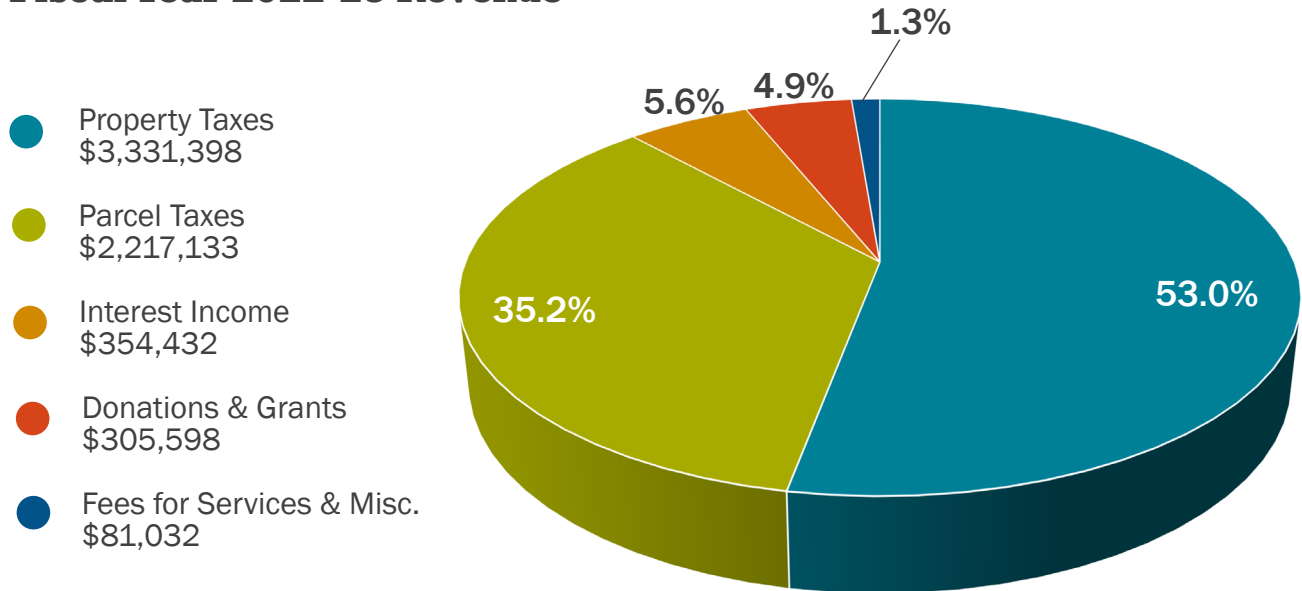
ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS/PROGRAMS

18,194

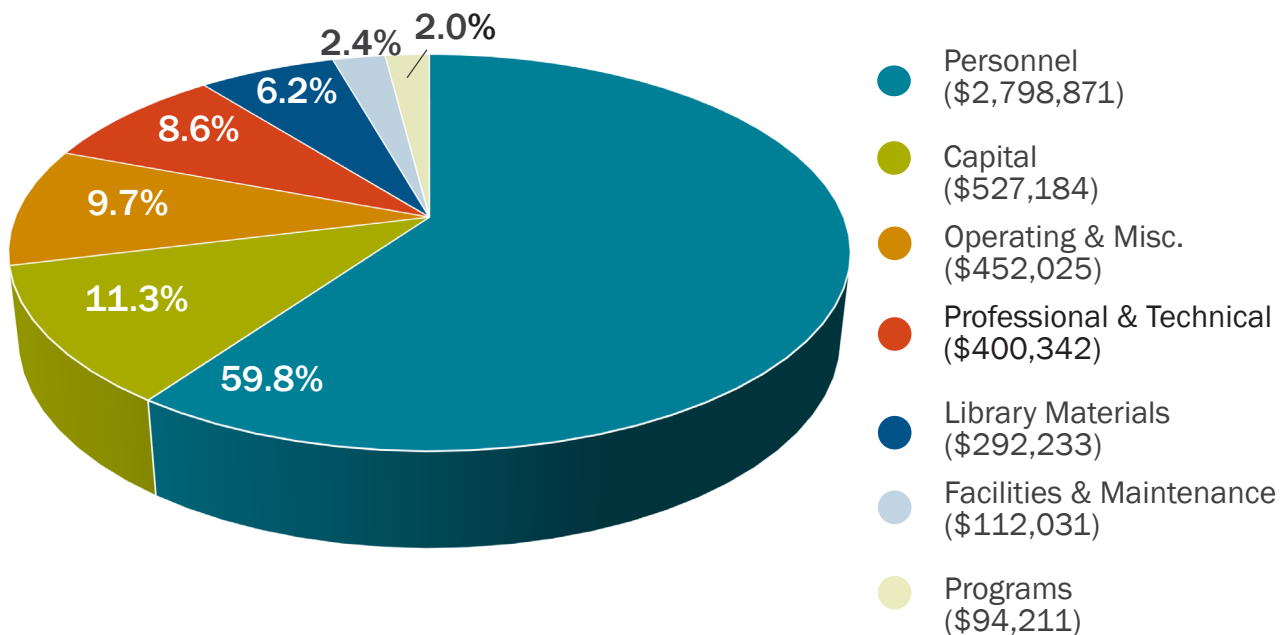


Finances

Fiscal Year 2022-23 Revenue



Fiscal Year 2022-23 Expenses



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 2022 - June 2023) for your dedication, hard work, and passion for our libraries!

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The Altadena Library Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the mission and resources of the Altadena Libraries. We are incredibly thankful to our Fiscal Year 2022-2023 donors.

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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.

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Sandra Tully
Ron and Cheryl Turkal
Two Dragons Martial Arts Studio
Unbound Dance Studio
Unincorporated Coffee
Urban Homestead Institute
Sandra and Jose Valenzuela
Eleanore Vega
Victor Ving
Brin Wall
Lola Warlick-Bryant
Janie Warschaw
Ashley Watts
Webster's Community Pharmacy
Camila Wilkerson
Rita Williams
Nikki Winslow
Barbara Woods
Andrew Zearbaugh



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

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