

Dear library supporter:

There's more to the library story than just words on paper or books on shelves. **The Library Foundation SD is proud to support the library and to help San Diegans learn new skills, pursue lifelong ambitions, and achieve better lives.**

I know you agree. Time and time again, our donors endorse this critical work with their library support. Thank you to everyone who helped us exceed the Lily Lai Foundation match with a year-end gift and to everyone who makes our advocacy impact possible.



**Working with the Friends of the San Diego Public Library and the Library Commission, Library Foundation SD supporters are part of a mighty coalition that protects public library investments.**

With your support, the Library Foundation SD is leaning into our increasingly significant advocacy role. We're taking the lead in telling elected leaders that **libraries are critical infrastructure and key to the success of our communities.**

And these efforts are especially effective because you've added your voice when we've spoken up. You'll read here how many San Diegans shared what they wanted from their libraries during Library Master Plan listening sessions. And, so many of you answered the call and sent emails and postcards to the City Council, encouraging additional city investments.

Thank you for joining us and speaking up. Our voices are being heard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick Stewart".

Patrick Stewart  
CEO, Library Foundation SD

Read more about the  
impact of your support



**The San Diego Public Library Foundation is now known as Library Foundation SD**

[LibraryFoundationSD.org](https://LibraryFoundationSD.org)

## ■ #WhyISupport: Sycuan and Lori and Bill Walton



I proudly represented the Library Foundation SD at Sycuan Casino Resort's Holiday Gift Giving event. We are so grateful to our longtime supporters, Bill and Lori Walton, for helping make this gift come to life.

Thank you to Jeff Goyer, Sycuan's Executive Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, and to the Tribal Council of the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation for supporting libraries in San Diego. Thanks to this partnership, we can help grow library resources, expand children's literacy services, support our workforce development programs, and so much more. Thank you, Sycuan!

—Patrick Stewart

## ■ The Library Master Plan: More Than Words - A Community Vision



If you've been able to join us for Library Master Plan listening sessions and share what you want to see for the future of your library, thank you. We've received valuable community input at the first 30 events, with thoughts on what you love, what you want to change, and what you want to add to your library. The library staff is planning the remaining listening sessions. Plan consultants Group 4 Architecture will use this input and their research to produce a long-range plan to improve library facilities, technology, and programs. Once this draft plan is ready, we will contact you again to get community feedback and additional thoughts. And, as always, if you cannot participate in these sessions, there is an online survey at the link provided below where you can provide input.

Share your vision at: [bit.ly/sdlibraryplan](https://bit.ly/sdlibraryplan).

## ■ Arts @ the Library – Lost in Translation: A Game of Telephone



We're proud to support the latest library art exhibit *Lost in Translation: A Game of Telephone*, and continue our efforts to broaden public access to the arts. The exhibit results from a year-long game of telephone among 27 local artists and authors. Inspired in part by the current state of communication breakdown in our country, this exhibition examines how we (mis)interpret or (mis)understand each other through a game of telephone with an artistic lens. The Library Foundation's support is part of our effort to support the library's role as a place to foster conversations about issues affecting our communities through literature, culture, and art. The exhibit is now on display through April 15 in the Art Gallery at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common. Check it out: [bit.ly/libraryonview](https://bit.ly/libraryonview).



## ■ Call on Mayor Gloria to fund critical library investments



Although neighborhoods with strong libraries see less crime, increased school success, and new connections to jobs and economic opportunity, San Diego's libraries have missed out on more than \$588 million in public funding due to years of budget neglect. Thanks to library advocates, City Council members unanimously urged Mayor Gloria to include new library investments in the fiscal year 2024 city budget. Help ensure Mayor Gloria joins our Council and includes our library budget priorities in his proposed budget by signing up to send a postcard. Our advocacy kit includes postage-paid postcards, available in Spanish and English. If you've already mailed your postcards, thank you. You can also email the mayor's office using our online tool with sample text encouraging him to join our council and fund critical library investments.

Take action at: [bit.ly/library-advocacy](https://bit.ly/library-advocacy).

## ■ Meet our 2022 Matchbook Story Contest winner



Library Shop SD Manager Scott Ehrig-Burgess with Cindy Chen.

Congratulations to Cindy Chen, winner of the Library Shop SD's 2022 Matchbook Story Contest! Cindy's limited-edition matchbook is available for purchase at the shop. Her matchbook story will also be displayed in the Central Library's Hervey Family Rare Book Room. We'd also like to congratulate our nine other finalists. Write Out Loud performed these authors' stories live at the Third Annual Shorties Awards Gala: Timothy Calaway, Ann Alves, Judy McDonough, Anne Eggertsen, Gladys Hernandez, Ned Norman, Karim Bouris, Daniella Rodiles, and Kate Olsen. Special thanks to Library Foundation SD trustee Judith Wenker, whose generous matching gift multiplied the impact of this year's entries to support the San Diego Public Library system.

Hear the winning story: [bit.ly/cindy-chen](https://bit.ly/cindy-chen).

## ■ Black History Month features creative new programs



Each February, the San Diego Public Library honors Black history, celebrates culture and community, and recognizes the achievements as well as the ongoing struggles of Black Americans. Understanding Black history is integral to understanding the history, issues, and future of our country. CBS 8 anchor Neda Iranpour recently spoke with the San Diego Public Library and the San Diego Black LGBTQ Coalition about their Black LGBTQ+ Human Book Experience event at the Valencia Park/ Malcolm X Library. This popular event features human "books" with various backgrounds and life experiences who meet event attendees in a safe space that encourages conversation. We're proud to support the library as a host of various thought-provoking programs and provide an opportunity for San Diegans to participate. Learn more: [bit.ly/cbs8-human-library](https://bit.ly/cbs8-human-library).

## ■ Watch for these upcoming events



### March 15: Walt Disney animator Benson Shum

Join the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library at 10 a.m. for a special storytime with author, illustrator, and Walt Disney animator Benson Shum. The storytime and a Library Shop SD pop-up booth will help celebrate the branch's 30th birthday. Benson Shum has illustrated several picture books, including *Anzu the Great Kaiju* and *Anzu the Great Listener*. Benson is also an animator at Walt Disney Animation Studios, where he contributed to such films as *Frozen*, *Frozen II*, *Big Hero 6*, *Zootopia*, *Moana*, *Raya and the Last Dragon*, and *Encanto*.

Benson will read his Anzu books and stay to sign and personalize your copy. There will be treats, and the shop's pop-up store will have Benson's books onsite for purchase. Sponsored by the Scripps Miramar Ranch Friends of the Library. Register: [bit.ly/benson-shum](https://bit.ly/benson-shum).

## Library Giving Day

### April 4: Library Giving Day

Stay tuned for more details!



### April 29-May 1: San Diego Book Crawl

Join the Library Shop SD and San Diego independent bookstores for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual San Diego Book Crawl. Visit any participating indie bookstore from April 29 to May 1 to collect exclusive prizes while you shop. Follow @sdbookcrawl on Instagram for more information.

## ■ Join the LibrariesTransformSD coalition

LibrariesTransformSD is a coalition of library advocates who make a difference! Last year, our coalition successfully advocated for more than \$2.1 million in additional city spending. This year, the City Council unanimously endorsed our investment priorities. We need your help to continue to protect library services. Follow the QR code to sign up or visit [bit.ly/library-advocacy](https://bit.ly/library-advocacy).



Visit [LibraryFoundationSD.org](https://LibraryFoundationSD.org) to learn more or follow us on social media!



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