

2024/25

Annual Report



Where curiosity
meets community



**Sacramento
Public Library**

About us

Sacramento Public Library is the fourth-largest library system in California with **28 locations** and mobile services, serving **1.6 million** urban, suburban, and rural residents. The Sacramento Public Library Authority is governed by a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement between the County of Sacramento and the Cities of Citrus Heights, Galt, Isleton, Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, and Sacramento.

Our mission

Sacramento Public Library supports our diverse communities' aspirations to learn, connect, and grow.



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Letter from the Director

This past year was one of transformation and resilience. From navigating construction projects, piloting new programs as part of our strategic plan, or launching a new brand and website, we adapted to better serve you.

With 28 branches across the county, we know that one size does not fit all. We took a closer look at how our hours could reflect community needs with a systemwide survey. That feedback will shape a more local, community-focused approach for our hours to improve access where it is most needed.

Several big construction projects took shape. The City of Elk Grove is transforming an old Rite Aid into a spacious new home for our Elk Grove branch. Renovations to the Martin Luther King, Jr. branch will create dedicated spaces for teens, kids, and study rooms. And the City of Sacramento restored the Colonial Heights branch following a fire in the meeting room.

As we renovate our spaces, we're adjusting our services to meet our community's needs. Our Mobile Services team added stops in neighborhoods affected by temporary building closures. Our Youth Services team partnered with community centers to continue children's programming.

Providing access for all is at the heart of all we do. A grant from the American Library Association supported adults reentering the workforce following incarceration with a series of workshops with Capital Storytelling. These efforts build on long-standing services like reference-by-mail, literacy tutoring, and reentry resource fairs. We piloted Sexual Health Resource Cabinets to reduce barriers to care and education. The program earned an Innovations Initiative Honorable Mention from the Urban Libraries Council.

We capped off the year with a new look and website shaped by our community. It reflects who we are: a place for learning, discovery, belonging, and connection—and makes it easier to discover more than you expected.

Peter Coyl, MLIS
Library Director & CEO

Recognition

Rowan Buck
American Library Association
(ALA) Odyssey Award Committee
ALA Committee on Diversity

Lain Krikourian
BiblioBoard Indie Author
Project Award Committee

Chloe Horsma
Library Freedom Project
Youth Service Committee

Kim Farnsworth
ALA Great Graphic Novels
for Teens Committee

Louise Lalonde
ALA Best Graphic Novels
for Adults Committee

Year in photos



The Friends of the Sacramento Public Library are tireless library advocates, volunteers, and our official fundraising partner. Last year, they raised **\$303,376** to support library initiatives, including Book First. The program spreads the joy of reading and learning and provides books to first grade students.

197 Schools visited 13,035 Students served 26,607 Books distributed

By the numbers

Circulation

Digital items such as eBooks and eAudiobooks continue to grow in popularity, with digital checkouts exceeding physical checkouts.



4.1 M

Physical circulation



4.8 M

Digital circulation
+7.6%

8.9

MILLION

items checked out

Library use

Library users saved **\$73 M** by borrowing books, eBooks, and eAudiobooks.



896,558

Total cardholders
+4.5%

91,556

New cardholders



2.3 M

Library visits
+18.4%



294,973

Computer hours

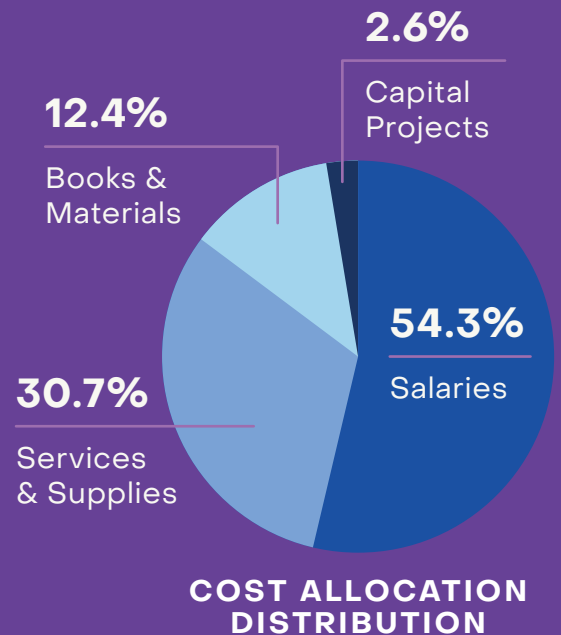
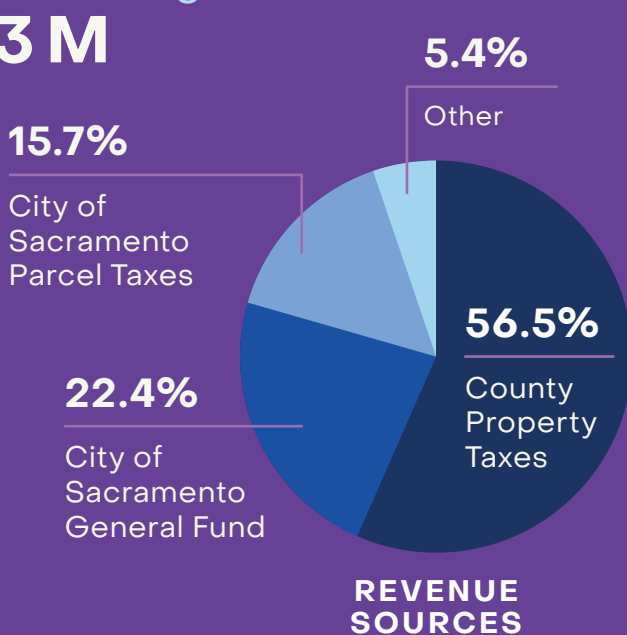


154,054

Program attendance
+31%

FY 2024-25 Budget

\$60.3 M



Building welcoming spaces

Libraries bring people together and serve as community hubs. In partnership with our local jurisdictions, we continually invest in our spaces to ensure they welcome all.



Colonial Heights restoration

The City of Sacramento renovated the branch after a fire in the meeting room damaged the building. The restoration effort included new electrical and HVAC systems, furniture, library materials, computers, and equipment.

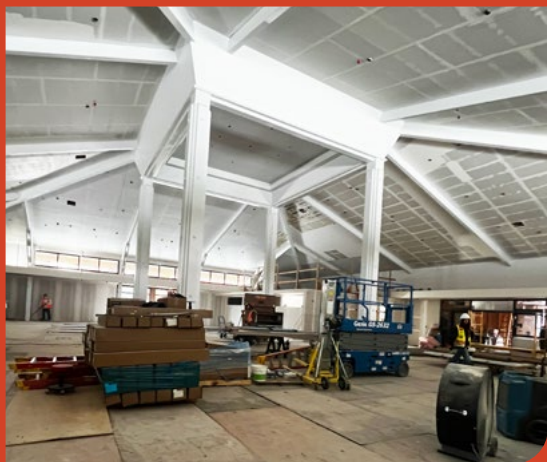
Estimated completion: early 2026



Elk Grove retrofit

The City of Elk Grove broke ground on the branch's future home. The former Rite Aid at 9260 Elk Grove Boulevard will be transformed into a state-of-the-art library. With a larger footprint to serve the growing community, the new building will have dedicated spaces for children, teens, reading, computers, and programs.

Estimated completion: summer 2026



Martin Luther King, Jr. renovation

The City of Sacramento began renovations on the Martin Luther King, Jr. branch. The library's new design will enhance the children and teen spaces, expand the community room, and provide space for quiet study, collaboration, and creativity. The project includes seismic upgrades, a new HVAC system, and updated restrooms.

Estimated completion: summer 2026

Spreading the joy of reading

We believe that all reading is good reading – no matter the genre, format, or level. Sparking the joy of reading is at the heart of our programs and services and supports community literacy.

Lucha Libro in the Stacks

Reading to your child early and in the language you know best helps build a foundation for a love of reading. We partnered with California Championship Wrestling to celebrate Día with a series of fun family programs. Lucha Libro in the Stacks! included a series of Bilingual Storytimes and live Lucha Libre wrestling matches.

Did you know? We offer materials in 13 languages including Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Hindi, Hmong, Korean, Pashto, Punjabi, Persian, Russian, Tagalog, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.



Summer Reading

Our annual Summer Reading challenge encourages people of all ages to read what they love.

23,577 Readers

259,927 Books read

2.8M Minutes read



Book Groups

Book groups bring people together for lively discussions on their latest reads and create space for personal connections. We offer book groups online and in-person at neighborhood branches.

192 Book Groups hosted



Enters the Chat

Audiences gathered to hear best-selling authors and renowned chefs talk about their latest works.

Including:

- Alison Bechdel
- Casey McQuiston
- Mark Oshiro
- Yotam Ottolenghi

Empowering youth

We nurture our next generation of leaders by supporting their well-being, and offering leadership and learning opportunities to help them grow.



Lunch at the Library

Each summer, the library serves free lunch to youth through a grant from the California State Library. Teens play a critical role in coordinating the program. They gain valuable leadership and job experience by running meal service, leading activities, and connecting with families about Summer Reading and library services.

64 Teen interns 11,000 Meals served 13 Branches

“I have to give you Thanks! for the food and everything you do and the programs, we feel like family. We don’t have anybody here, so we feel so welcome.” – *Library patron*

“Thank you SO MUCH for giving me this opportunity to learn and grow! I’ve felt so supported in my time working here, and I hope to come back next summer!” – *Teen intern*

Prom Drive

The Prom Drive was designed by teens for teens in 2021 at the North Highlands–Antelope Library. Branches host giveaway events where teens can shop the free collection of formalwear and accessories donated by the community. The event makes milestone experiences like prom more affordable and accessible.

17 Branch events 900 Teen shoppers

“One teen came last year and selected an outfit for their homecoming. [They] came in this year to donate that outfit and pick out a new one for their prom. I love that the community is so connected to this program!” – *Library staff*

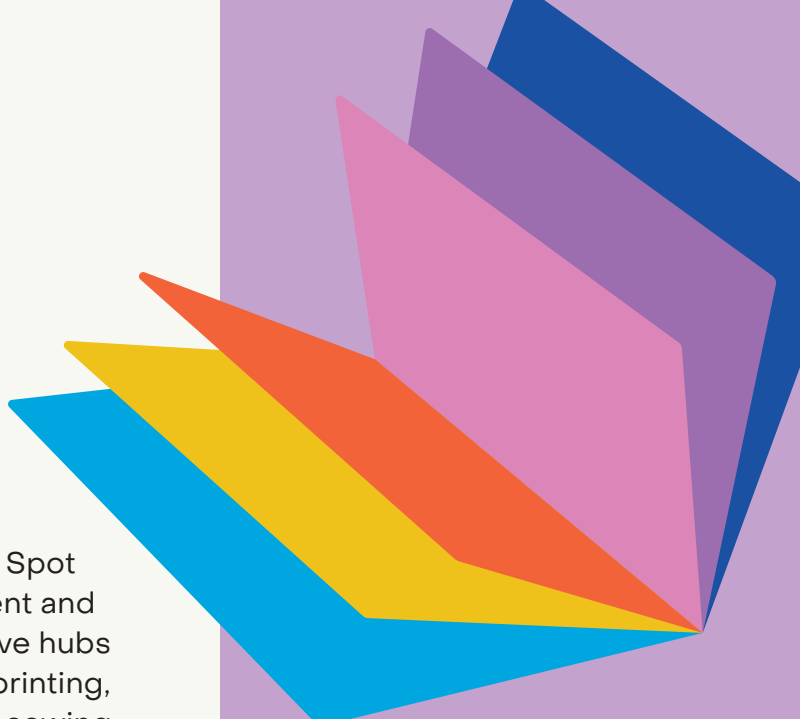


Fostering a love of learning

The library is a space for curiosity and wonder. Find the tools and resources you need to keep learning and growing.

Creative spaces

The Makerspace at the Central Library and Design Spot at the Arcade Library reopened with new equipment and tools based on community feedback. These creative hubs offer free access to popular activities such as 3D printing, audio recording and production, craft making, and sewing.



Top five online resources

Library users can get free access to online streaming services, magazines, newspapers, learning apps, and more.

kanopy
stream smarter

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

 **TeachingBooks®**

 **ProQuest**
Research Companion

 **MANGO**
LANGUAGES

Expanding access

The library is a place for free and equitable access to information, resources, and learning.



Parks and Tranquility

The Parks & Tranquility program used art to promote health and mental wellness and break down historical and geographic barriers that have kept some communities from nature spaces.

Through a California State Library grant and community partnerships, we created art and educational experiences at the California State Railroad Museum, Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, American River Parkway, Effie Yeaw Nature Center, and Cosumnes River Preserve. We collaborated with artists and groups that serve economically impacted communities, as well as Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and neurodiverse populations. The library hosted 14 events, such as Bilingual Bird Watching, Yoga & Sound Meditation, and the Accessible Outdoors.

“I really enjoyed the bilingual birdwatching outing facilitated by Sol Collective... The outing itself was a welcoming group and I appreciated the info shared about indigenous plants, stories about the Cosumnes River, and how birdwatching is more than just identifying names from a western classification system.”

“I appreciated the accessibility, diversity, inclusion and equity considerations for this tranquility trail event.”





Mobile Services

Our Mobile Services team brings the library into the community. The team visits remote areas with limited or no library access, supports families and older adults living in underserved areas, and attends local events. While Colonial Heights and Martin Luther King, Jr. closed for renovations, the team added weekly stops to nearby community centers, Oak Park Farmers Market, and Tahoe Park Food Truck Nights. The team also serves people who are unhoused or living in transitional housing. Through a partnership with First Step Communities, the team established regular visits to the Roseville Road Campus and programs such as painting classes, bingo, blood pressure clinics, magnet making, and gardening workshops based on community input.



Sexual Health Resource Cabinets

Sacramento has one of the highest rates of sexually transmitted infections in the country. The library introduced resource cabinets at 12 branches to help reduce barriers to access, support healthier outcomes, and reduce stigma surrounding reproductive health topics. The pilot program earned an honorable mention for innovation from the Urban Libraries Council and was made possible through a partnership with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte. The resource cabinets offer free health information, condoms, lubricants, dental dams, and pregnancy tests. They are placed in areas that are easy for adults to find while also remaining discreet.





Did you know?

Our Collection Services team processes **10,000 items** each day. Items like books, DVDs, and video games are sorted by a machine that drops them in bins headed for each branch. Every morning, our Logistics team delivers bins to each branch. When they arrive, staff shelve and stage items on hold.



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saclibrary.org

