Annual Report
FY 2022–2023

Michelle Jeffers, Chief of Public Programs & Partnerships
November 16, 2023
San Francisco Library Commission
• Overview of the past fiscal year
• Simple AND beautiful, thanks to Graphics Manager Betty Ho
• Data focused, thanks to Research, Strategy and Analytics Team
• This is a draft. Final version will be published in December
Budget

**FY 2022–23 Adopted Budget**
Total Expenditures: $185,700,000

- Branches: 20%
- Main: 15%
- Collections and Technical Services: 15%
- Community Programs & Partnerships: 13%
- Facilities: 12%
- Capital Project: 8%
- IT: 6%
- Administration: 5%

**Annual Support from Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library**
Grant Expenditures FY 2022-2023
Total Expenditures: $671,700

- Branch Library Support
- Main Library Support
- Systemwide Youth Support
- Summer Stamps
- Promotions, Volunteers, and Outreach
- Systemwide Adult Programs
- One City One Book
- Staff Training & Recognition
- Strategic Initiatives and Collections
- Donor Restricted Funds

**Uses by Divisions (Budget in Millions)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>FY23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Branches</td>
<td>$56.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main</td>
<td>$24.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collections &amp; Technical Services</td>
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<td>Community Programs &amp; Partnerships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>IT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$19.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$185.70</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library underwrite the library’s incredible array of public programs, including:

- Main Library programs at the History Center, affinity centers, The Bridge at Main and special collections.
- Library and learning programs, such as Summer Stamps, STDH classes and The Mix at the Main.
- Literary events, cultural programs, exhibitions and book sales and auctions.
- System-wide cultural collaborations, such as STEW, Latino Heritage, More Than a Month (Black History & Culture, Women’s History, Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage, FERIES), Filipino-American History Month, and MEIDE.
- Adult and ongoing learning programs that cover topics including job and career, small business, digital literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL), to name a few.
- Helping SPL remain one of the best libraries in the US, by supporting leadership development, service innovation and implementation of the Library’s Racial Equity Action Plan.
Data for the win

Check Out Our Checkouts

- Physical: 6,745,374
- E-circulation: 5,784,792
- Total Circulation: 12,515,116

Public Programs at a Glance

**Youth**
- 6,030 Youth Programs
- 185,484 Attendance
- 223% Increase in Youth Programs from FY 22
- 2,208 Storytimes Program in FY 22
- 74.26K Attendance
- 381% Increase in Storytime programs

**Adult**
- 2,971 Adult Programs in FY 22
- 86.8K Attendance
- 106% Increase in Adult Programs

Tech Time: Computer Literacy Programs

- 4.23K Attendance of computer classes
- 229% Increase in computer literacy offerings
- 973 Patrons attended ESL programs

Work It: Jobs, Business & Finance programs

- 350+ Work It Programs
- 7.48K Patrons attending Work It Programs

Career Online High School Graduation

On June 13, for the first time since the pandemic, SFL held a graduation for nine students who completed the Career Online High School (COHS) Program. Library card holders who are 18 years or older and in California are eligible to attend. The event was livestreamed through SFL’s Facebook, live. The program also offers career certificates in childcare, food and hospitality, home care, and retail customer service, to name a few.

“Thank you so much for the Virtual San Francisco Financial Planning Day 2022 that you offered last October. Today I learned that the action that I took after learning about the interest and exclusion of the property tax partner is going to result in my saving a substantial amount of money every year.” — Patrons, February 2023

"So grateful for the program...for your encouragement from the start... I'm never in this together..." — COHS Graduate
A look back at what was hot

Top 5 Circulating Titles

**JUVENILE FICTION**
- Dog Man: Brawl of the Wild
- Cat Kid Cosmic Climb: Perspective
- Dog Man: Unleashed
- Dog Man
- Dog Man: Mothering Heights

San Francisco kids love Dav Pilkey’s Dog Man series! These titles were all in the top 5.

**TEEN FICTION**
- Melinda Lo, Last Night at the Telegraph Club
- Alice Oseman, Heartstopper, Volume 1
- Sarah J. Maas, A Court of Thorns and Roses
- Leigh Bardugo, Six of Crows
- Suzanne Collins, The Hunger Games, Catching Fire, Mockingjay

**ADULT FICTION**
- Alyssa Cole, When No One Is Watching
- Emily St.John Mandel, Station Eleven
- Celeste Ng, Theaven Weep
- Barbara Kingsolver, Demon Summer
- Anthony Doerr, Cloud Cuckoo Land

**ADULT NONFICTION**
- Nigel Poor and Antoinette Woods, The Jojo Krien: Fleeing Stories of Life in a Tiny Home
- Michelle Obama, The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times
- Michelle Zimmerman, Crying in H Mart: A Memoir
- Prince Harry, Spare
- Jennette McCurdy, I’m Glad My Mom Died

**MOVIES**
- Everything Everywhere All At Once
- Top Gun: Maverick
- The Batman
- Nope
- Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness

**NONFICTION E-BOOK**
- Jennette McCurdy, I’m Glad My Mom Died
- Prince Harry, Spare
- Bernie Siegel, Lessons in Chemistry
- Gabrielle Zevin, Tomorrow, and Tomorrow and Tomorrow
- Lucy Kelley, The Paris Apartments
Milestones, Awards & Celebrations

San Francisco Public Library celebrated the milestone of reaching 12 million annual checkouts, surpassing pre-pandemic levels. To celebrate, the Library staff held a party at the Main Library and gave away free fortune cookies to the first 100 patrons at all 27 branches and the Main Library on Friday, July 30, 2021.

“Every great city has a great library, but San Francisco Public Library is the best. The work they do goes beyond putting books in hands—our Library supports residents in achieving their goals and dreams. As community hubs, they provide safe and welcoming spaces where people can connect with their neighbors, strengthening our collective resilience. I encourage everyone to get a library card so that they can take full advantage of this vital civic resource.” — Mayor London Breed
Milestones, Awards & Celebrations

Return of Potrero Branch exhibition

May 20, the Potrero Branch Library once again opened its doors for an artist reception celebrating the talent of neighborhood residents. The 62nd Annual Potrero Hill Artists’ Exhibition is one of the City’s longest-running annual exhibitions and features a broad array of styles from painting to prints, photography to textiles, pottery to sculpture and everything in between.

“The annual art exhibit at the Potrero Branch Library is one of the pleasures of living in a sophisticated city. Great literature and media, inspiring views, a warm and knowledgeable library staff and patrons and neighbors who come together once a year and enjoy conversation with artistic creations from the local community.”
— Long-time exhibition artist and neighborhood resident Wolf Thurmeier

Award-Winning Library Love Letters Campaign

Deputy Director of Communications, Jazmín Wong, Technical assistant Liao Windsor and Senior Clerk Roy Miller won a California Library Association PR Excellence Award for their charming Library Love Letters Instagram campaign. The selection committee had this to say about the project:

“Wow! Very impressed with the simplicity and originality of this idea. The videos are short and heartwarming. I like how every video was shot in a different part of the library. Love how it highlights different branches. Definitely feel the love that San Francisco residents have for SFPL, as evidenced in the passing of the Library Preservation Fund.”

“What an amazing social media campaign! We often have a lot of negativity to overcome online and this is definitely a counterbalance that reminds me why I love my job.”
This is the second PR Excellence award for Jazmín Wong and Liao Windsor in two years! Check the series on the Library’s Instagram account.

Career Online High School Graduation

On June 13, for the first time since the pandemic, SFPL held a graduation for nine students who completed the Career Online High School (COHS) Program. Library card holders who are 18 years or older and a California resident can earn an accredited high school diploma through SFPL for free. The program also offers career certificates in childcare, food and hospitality, home care and retail customer service, to name a few.

“So grateful for the program...for your encouragement from the start...Forever in this together...” — COHS Graduate
Branch Love

Branch Programs Dazzle and Shine

"I just wanted to say thank you to all of the librarians in SFPL, for all that you do for us (visitors and members of the SFPL). Without you life navigating this amazingly wonderful place for international, local and virtual research, lectures, exhibits, workshops, thought leadership activities for singles, couples, families and kids would not be as easy and successful. You are such an inspiration." - Patricia

Capital Project Update

On September 30, Mayor Breed announced $5.2 million dollars in grants awarded through California’s Building Forward Library Improvement Grant Program to renovate the Islais Creek and Chrisstow/Brock Mission Branches. The grants provide the needed funding to upgrade both branches to state-of-the-art library facilities while maintaining their historic significance.

The California State Library Building Forward Initiative awarded the Islais Creek project $5.2 million dollars and the Chrisstow/Brock Mission Branch renovation project nearly $8 million dollars. In addition to library service improvements, the library branch renovation projects will upgrade the obsolete HVAC systems in both buildings so they can serve in the future as cooling and clean air respite centers for the community.

Both renovations are designed to be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certified and to advance San Francisco’s Climate Action Plan goals to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040. The goal is for both libraries to become fully electric, eliminating natural gas heating and taking advantage of the City’s municipal hydroelectric power. The Mission Branch Library will add rooftop solar panels and the Chrisstow/Brock Library will upgrade its existing solar panels, providing renewable power.

Prior to being awarded grant monies, the Library set aside funding accumulated through the Library Preservation and General Funds to support the renovation of both branches. The Building Forward Library Improvement Grant enables the Library to cover cost increases caused by the pandemic and inflation.
Racial Equity Work Update

Racial Equity Work at the Library

As San Francisco Public Library continues to build a culture, space and workplace that is accessible and welcoming to all current and future employees, there have been several important practices we’ve developed and nurtured to support Phase 1 of the Racial Equity Action Plan.

With great success, we continue to develop a culture of learning by sharing with staff the most current best practices for cultivating workplace equity. Over the year, we covered topics such as managing implicit bias and microaggressions.

Last year, we relaunched the monthly Racial Equity Committee (REC) meetings where we plan the racial equity work. We created internal opportunities that support a culture of learning among Library staff. The Racial Equity at the Library (R.E.A.L.) Talk 2.0 was born in response to staff wanting to increase their opportunities to discuss and explore racial equity at work. Structured as an informal conference, the inaugural R.E.A.L. Talk 2.0 provided a way to engage staff and build community around racial equity topics that we believe are important and relevant to library life and culture. Discussion topics included:

- Language Justice: multilingualism among staff
- Alp the Gorilla: Imposter syndrome, professionalism and public libraries
- Cultural Competency in Programming: what do culturally affirming programs and spaces look like at SFLPL?

To keep staff updated, we relaunched the Racial Equity Newsletter where we highlight the current work that is underway at SFLPL and in the wider community, helping us bridge SFLPL with what is happening around us, reminding us that we are not alone in this work.

We were fortunate to hire SFL Fellow Herman Sato who comes with a fresh set of podcasting skills, and with the support of the REC, launched the first R.E.A.L. Podcast where we frame the racial equity work through the lens of storytelling by historically resilient communities.

Lastly, we relaunched the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ affinity groups where we provide not only a safe space to share common experiences, but also where we continue the conversation on how to take actions in creating a transformative culture, one action that requires all hands on deck. Let’s move together!
Thank you!

FINAL REPORT COMING DECEMBER 2023

I will stay in touch and again thank you for making the first step with me to succeed.
– COHS Graduate Raphael Tance