



San Francisco Public Library

Annual Report FY 2022-2023



Dear San Francisco Residents,



This past year was incredibly affirming for San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) thanks to YOU! On November 8, 2022, you voted to renew the Library Preservation Fund (Prop F), securing the future of our beloved library system for the next 25 years. And you

did it with an unprecedented 83% of the vote! We feel the LOVE and we are so grateful for your support, which has made us one of the highest rated departments in City government.

The Library Preservation Fund (LPF) is our largest budget source, measuring 99% percent of the Fiscal Year 2022–23 budget of \$185.7 million. Since its adoption in 1994, the LPF has enabled us to expand our hours, upgrade our facilities, present thousands of free public programs annually, provide access to resources in different languages and in our jail system, eliminate overdue fines and so much more. At 11% of our budget, SFPL maintains one of the largest collections and materials budgets per capita, among U.S. libraries. According to the 2022 California State Library Survey, San Francisco has the highest circulation per capita amongst urban libraries in the state. Our circulation is among the top 15 urban public libraries in the country with more than 9,000 physical and 15,000 electronic materials checked out daily. This year, we hit a new record with 12 million checked-out items, exceeding our pre-pandemic circulation. We are proud to serve an average of 10,000 patrons per

day and to be one of the largest free providers of high-speed Internet and Wi-Fi in the City.

The following pages further illustrate the incredible work we do that is made possible by your robust investment in library services. But we don't plan to rest on our laurels. With the incredible mandate we received from you last November, we know we need to continually evolve and remain responsive to community needs. Currently, we are deep into the most ambitious and comprehensive strategic planning process ever undertaken by any major urban library in the country. We have held 20 community stakeholder focus groups covering each district and in multiple languages; conducted 2,000 branch user intercept surveys; administered an internal survey and employee engagement sessions; interviewed numerous City department heads and gathered feedback from more than 500 participants at this year's Night of Ideas. Now we are synthesizing this data to help us reimagine what library service in the 21st century looks like in San Francisco.

We have big plans for our future, and those plans center YOU, so stay tuned for the final plan early in the new year. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this look back on another remarkable year. We thank you for your ongoing support and patronage.

In community,

Michael Lambert
City Librarian Michael Lambert



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Staff Excellence

Leading the Way

Dolly Goyal



Mover & Shaker

**Jaena Rae
Cabrera**

Thank you for your
dedication and service

Susan Goldstein



This year, we added a new colleague to our executive leadership team; Dolly Goyal, our Chief of Public Services. In her role, she oversees the Public Services divisions: Main Library, Branches, Collections & Technical Services and Community Programs and Partnerships.

She has more than 15 years of experience working in some of the Bay Area's most innovative urban library systems. Most recently, she was the Assistant City

Librarian for the Santa Clara City Library. A leader in the profession, she was elected to serve as the President of the California Library Association in 2018. Previous to that she was a 2014 American Library Association (ALA) Emerging Leader and a 2012 Eureka! Institute Fellow. She is also a member of REFORMA, Library Leadership & Management Association and locally, the Bay Area Young Adult Librarians.

Our very own Ocean View Branch Manager Jaena Rae Cabrera received a *Library Journal's Movers & Shakers* Award. Jaena is super dedicated to her work and to public service. She actively leads the Asian Pacific American Library Association (APALA) as President-Elect of the executive board. She is also involved in the LIS community as the Editor in Chief of WOC+Lib, an online forum that features the work of BIPOC library and archives workers. She also edits *In the Library with the Lead Pipe*, a peer-reviewed journal that publishes articles from diverse perspectives.

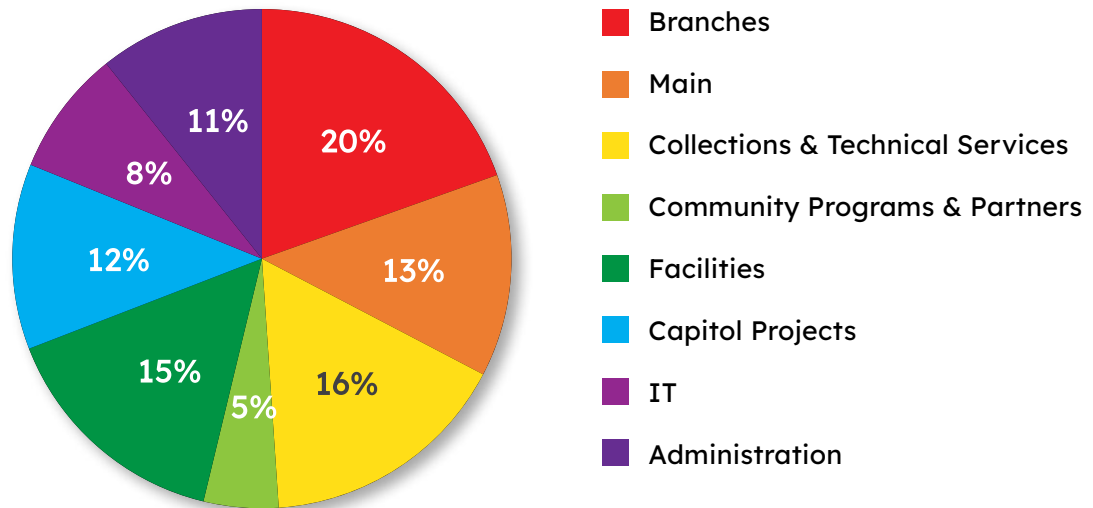
Since becoming a permanent librarian in 2017, Jaena has championed growing the Library's Filipino offerings. She organized two large literary programs at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in conjunction with the Library, attracting more than 300 patrons to hear Filipino poetry and prose. She also helped plan the 6th Annual Filipino American International Book Festival, the largest festival of its kind in the United States, bringing more than 40 Filipino literary figures to San Francisco. Jaena trained to be a mental health first aid worker to better understand Filipino issues and trauma and is currently earning her associate degree in Philippine Studies while working full time.

On June 30, 2023, Susan Goldstein, the City Archivist for 28 years, embarked on her next great adventure: retirement. During Susan's tenure, SFPL dramatically improved public access to its historic collections. Career highlights include the creation of an innovative crowdsourced photo archive, *Shades of San Francisco*, which includes personal family photographs that reflect and celebrate the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Bayview, Western Addition, Mission, Ocean View, Merced, Ingleside and Sunset neighborhoods as well as our LGBTQIA+ and Filipino communities. She was instrumental in securing a grant from the National Endowment for Humanities to establish an archive of collections related to the early AIDS

epidemic in collaboration with the University of San Francisco and the GLBT Historical Society. She also won grants to preserve the work of the groundbreaking Filipino arts nonprofit Kularts and to digitize two historic African American newspapers, *The Hunter's Point Beacon* and *The Spokesman*, and the *Bay Area Times/Coming Up*, a LGBTQ newspaper started in 1978. During the Covid-19 shutdown, she established the Covid-19 Community Time Capsule to document the pandemic throughout the City. She successfully solicited and received collections from Mayors Jordan, Agnos, Brown, Newsom and Lee, the Board of Supervisors and a wide range of City and County departments. She will be missed!

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Adopted Budget

Total Expenditures: \$185,700,000

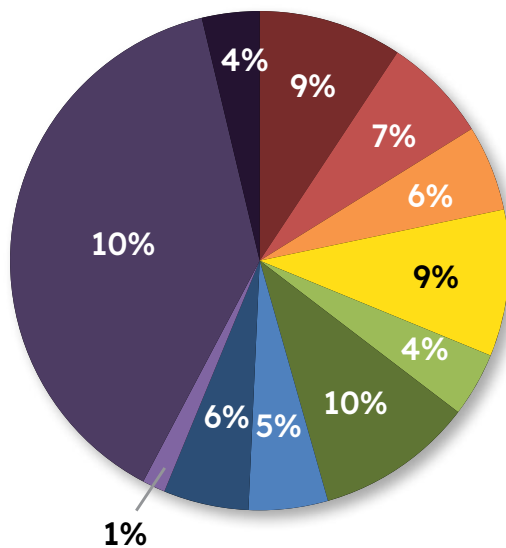


USES BY DIVISIONS (BUDGET IN MILLIONS)	FY23
Branches	\$36.32
Main	\$24.35
Collections & Technical Services	\$30.19
Community Programs & Partnerships	\$8.99
Facilities	\$28.53
Capitol Projects	\$22.31
IT	\$15.11
Administration	\$19.91
Total	\$185.70

Annual Support from Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library

Grant Expenditures FY 2022–2023

Total Expenditures: \$697,945



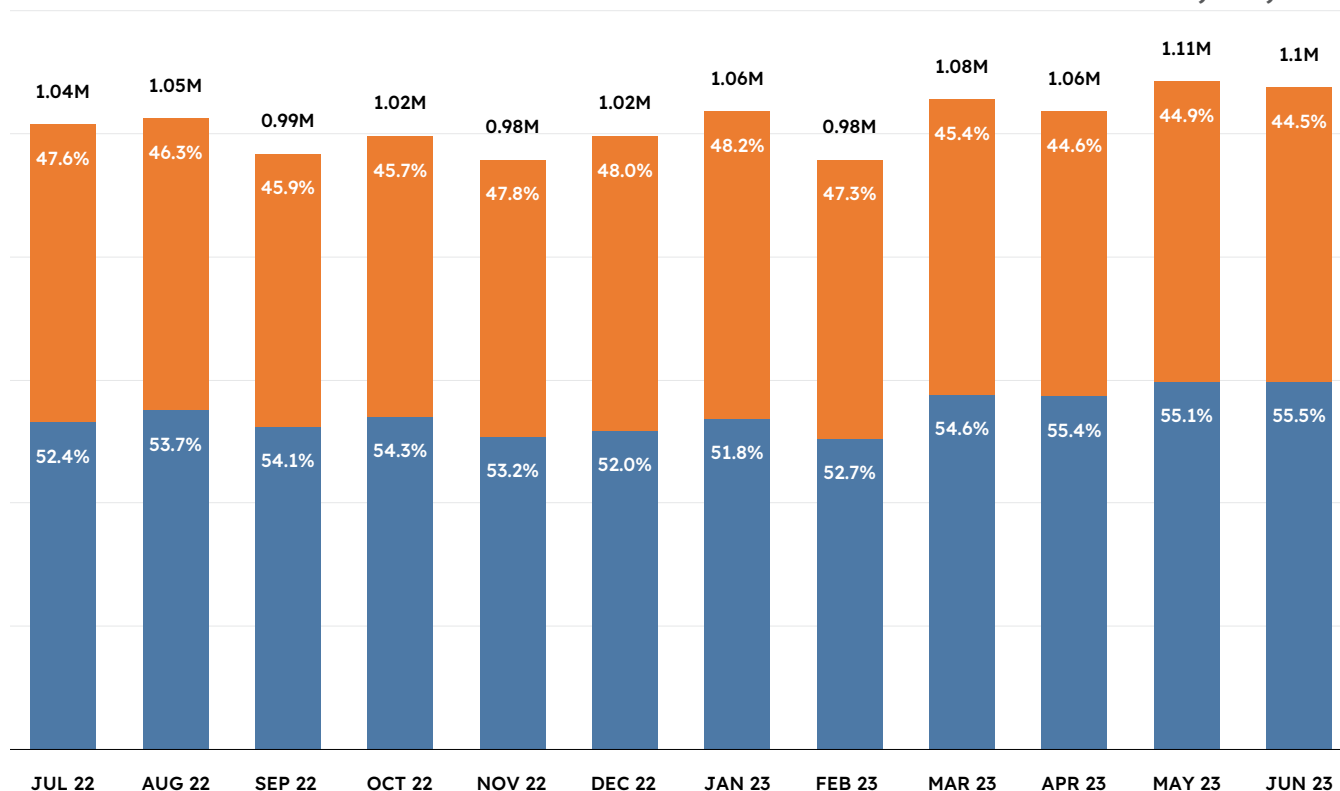
Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library underwrites the Library's incredible array of public programs, including:

- Main Library programs at the History Center, affinity centers, the Bridge at Main and special collections
- Literacy and learning programs, such as Summer Stride, STEM classes and The Mix at the Main
- Literary events, cultural programs, exhibitions and branch events and activities
- System-wide cultural celebrations, such as ¡VIVA! Latinx Heritage, More Than a Month: Black History & Culture, Weaving Stories: Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Heritage, HERStory, Filipino American History Month and PRIDE
- Adult lifelong learning programs that cover topics including jobs and careers, small business, digital literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL), to name a few
- Helping SFPL 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.

FRIENDS BUDGET	FY24
Branch Library Support	\$64,900
Main Library Support	\$47,800
Systemwide Youth Programs	\$38,800
Summer Stride	\$66,300
Promotions,Volunteers and Outreach	\$29,100
Systemwide Adult Programs	\$71,300
One City One Book	\$35,800
Staff Training and Recognition	\$38,500
Strategic Initiatives and Collections	\$10,400
Donor Restricted Funds	\$269,000
Off Cycle Grants	\$26,035
Total Friends funds	\$697,945

Check Out Our Checkouts

Physical: 6,745,374
eCirculation: 5,784,792
Total Circulation: 12,513,943



393.4K

**PHYSICAL
MATERIALS
ADDED
to the collection**

53.9K

**NON-ENGLISH
PHYSICAL
MATERIALS
ADDED
to the collection**



612

**PARK PASSES
in circulation**

2.35K

**TIMES
park passes were
checked out**

San Francisco's First SFPL Book Stop

On February 18, San Francisco Public Library unveiled the City's first-ever SFPL Book Stop, an automated book kiosk at Treasure Island's Island Cove Market. The kiosk is pre-stocked with assorted titles and available for community use during market hours.

The ribbon cutting was attended by community members, District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey, City Librarian Michael Lambert, Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA) Board of Directors Vice-President Linda Richardson, SFPL Commission President Connie Wolf, Abdo Nasser, owner of the Island Cove Market and Marie Ciepiela, Executive Director of the Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library, which provided funding for the inaugural kiosk.



San Francisco County Jail First in the Nation to Provide Free Access to Tablet Computers

The San Francisco Sheriff's Office, in partnership with the Mayor's Office, San Francisco Public Library, the Financial Justice Project in the Treasurer's Office and the SF Jail Justice Coalition, launched a groundbreaking tablet program with access to never-before-offered free content for incarcerated people in its county jails.

Nine years ago, the Sheriff's Office initiated free tablet technology to enhance education and learning for people in its custody. The Mayor's Office committed \$500,000 annually from the City's General Fund to support the program's implementation and maintenance. Unlike other similar tablet programs in jails and prisons nationwide which charge incarcerated people fees, this initiative ensures that every service

"We know that low literacy and barriers to education contribute to the prison pipeline, and that having access to information and library services can change the trajectory of someone's life. We are committed to improving the outcomes for our justice-involved patrons and to set a new standard of service for our industry."

— City Librarian Michael Lambert

is free to people at San Francisco County jails. At no cost, they can view important legal and reentry resources, make commissary orders and medical requests and submit grievances. Thanks to SFPL, which leveraged its hoopla digital platform, incarcerated people now have the ability to stream a wide range of free media, including books, entertainment and music, curated by longtime Jail & Reentry Services librarians Rachel Kinnon, Dr. Jeanie Austin and Nili Ness.





SFPL Celebrates 12 MILLION Checkouts





Photo: Kit Castagne

San Francisco Public Library celebrated the milestone of reaching 12 million annual circulation, 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 28, 2023.

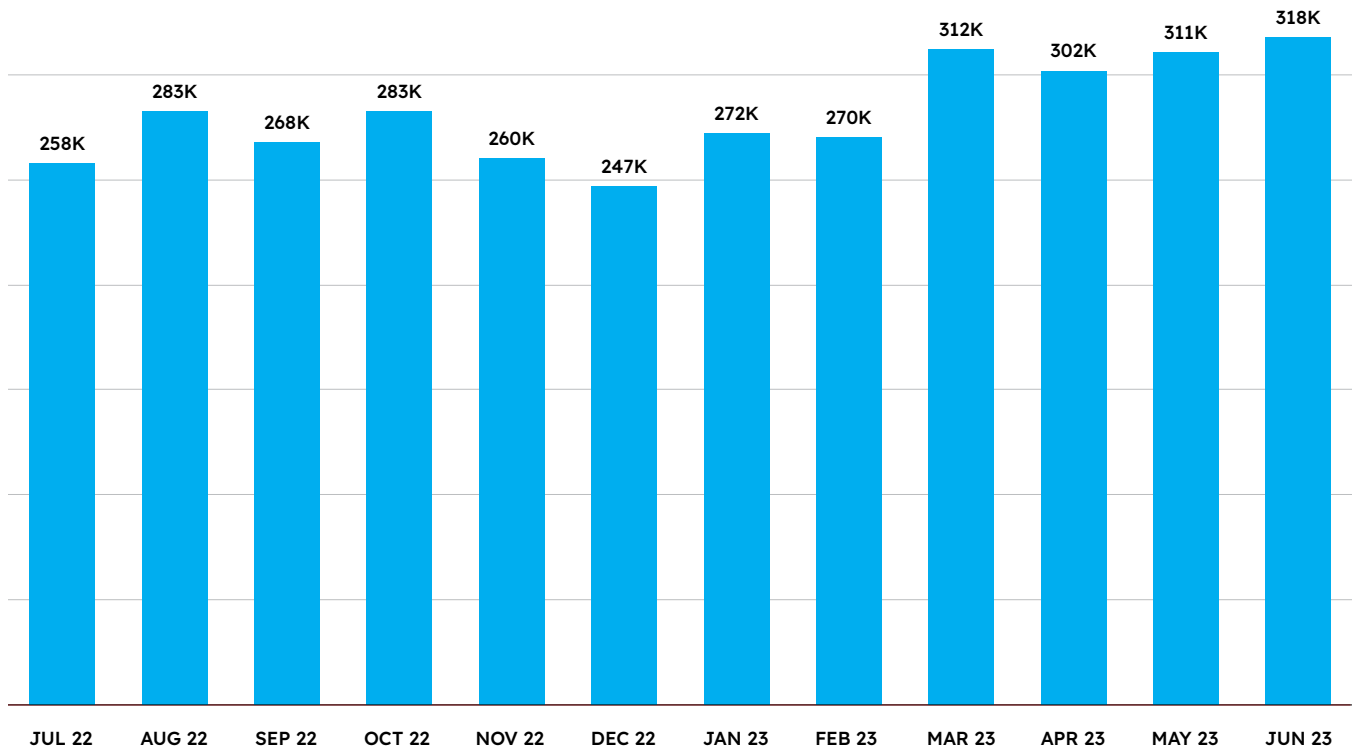
“Every great city has a great library, but San Francisco Public Library is the best. The work they do goes beyond putting books in hands—our Library supports residents in achieving their goals and dreams. As community hubs, they provide safe and welcoming spaces where people can connect with their neighbors,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

— Mayor London Breed



Visitation

3,398,569 Visits



8.25K

**PATRON
CONTACTS**
made by SFPL
social service team



SFPL Social Service Team

San Francisco Public Library was the first library in the world to have a full-time social worker on staff. Today, Leah Esguerra and her team of Health and Safety Associates reach out to patrons to connect them with social service programs in the hopes of helping them improve their circumstances and receive the help and support they need.

1.35K

**MEETING
ROOMS USAGE**
by community
groups

Digi Center Opening



DIGI CENTER
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Just in time for the holidays, SFPL made it easy for patrons to bring their memories into the 21st century with a new DIY Digi Lab. Located on the 5th Floor of the Main Library, the Lab is equipped so the public can independently digitize personal videotapes (yes, including VHS formats!), audiocassettes, 8 mm or Super8 film reels, photographs, slides, negatives, papers and floppy disks.

The Digi Center expanded their workstations from one to three since opening and has served close to 100 patrons to date. "We've been booked solid, with requests for higher capacity," says Digi Center Manager Dee Dee Kramer.

298.5K

HOURS USED
by patrons at
public computer
terminals

47%

INCREASE
in public computer
usage from
previous year

6.22M

PAGEVIEWS
at public computer
terminals

8.12K

WI-FI USERS
per day at
Main + Branches

32%

INCREASE
in Wi-Fi
connections from
previous year

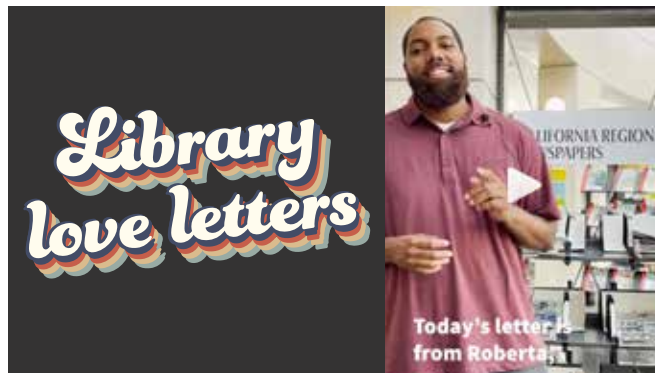
Award-Winning Library Love Letters Campaign

Deputy Director of Communications Jaime Wong, Technical Assistant Lisa Weddle and Senior Clerk Roy Tillery won a California Library Association PRExcellence 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 PRExcellence award for Jaime Wong and Lisa Weddle in two years! Catch the series on the Library's Instagram account.

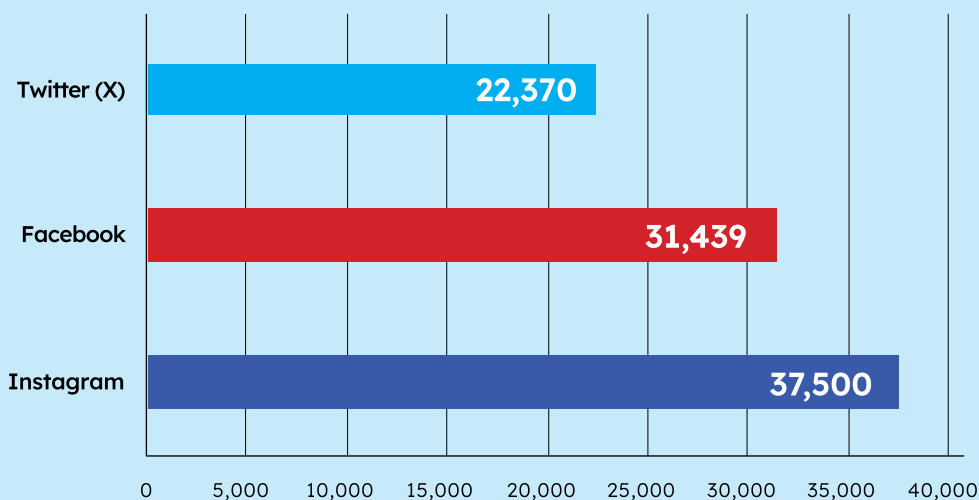


1.4M

**SOCIAL MEDIA
ENGAGEMENT**
across all platforms
(Instagram,
Facebook and X)

In FY23, there were 1,408,864 daily likes/dislikes, comments, shares, new subscribers and comments for Facebook, Twitter (X), YouTube and Instagram.

Total Social Media Followers



LibAnswers Stats—Remote Patron Support (LibAnswers, LibChat, Tip Line)



36.2K
NUMBER OF
INTERACTIONS

424.8K
REFERENCE
QUESTIONS
ANSWERED
in person

Librarians at the Main work hard every day to help our patrons solve a wide range of issues and inquiries via email, chat and text.

New Hires by Division

Main Library	38
Branch Division	107
Community Programs & Partnerships	14
Collections & Technical Services	8
Facilities	29
Finance	2
Human Resources	4
Information & Technology	5
Research, Strategy & Analytics	1
Grand Total	208

Top 5 Circulating Titles



JUVENILE FICTION

Dog Man: Brawl of the Wild

Cat Kid Comic Club: Perspectives

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

Malinda 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 and Mockingjay*

ADULT FICTION

Alyssa Cole, *When No One Is Watching*

Emily St. John Mandel, *Sea of Tranquility*

Celeste Ng, *Our Missing Hearts*

Barbara Kingsolver, *Demon Copperhead*

Anthony Doerr, *Cloud Cuckoo Land*

ADULT NONFICTION

Nigel Poor and Earlonne Woods, *This Is Ear Hustle: Unflinching Stories of Everyday Prison Life*

Michelle Obama, *The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times*

Michelle Zauner, *Crying in H Mart: A Memoir*

Prince Harry, *Spare*

Jennette McCurdy, *I'm Glad My Mom Died*



MUSIC

Taylor Swift, *Midnights*

Beyoncé, *Renaissance*

Harry Styles, *Harry's House*

Gary Valentine, *Against the Odds 1974-1982*

Adele, *30*

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*

Lori Gottlieb, *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone*

Michelle Zauner, *Crying in H Mart: A Memoir*

Robin Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass*

E-AUDIOBOOK

Jennette McCurdy, *I'm Glad My Mom Died*

Prince Harry, *Spare*

Bonnie Garmus, *Lessons in Chemistry*

Gabrielle Zevin, *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*

Lucy Foley, *The Paris Apartment*

Public Programs at a Glance

Youth

6,030
YOUTH
PROGRAMS

185.4K
ATTENDANCE

223%
INCREASE
in Youth Programs
from previous year

2,208
STORYTIMES
PROGRAMS

74.3K
ATTENDANCE

381%
INCREASE
in Storytime
Programs



Librarian Eric reading at storytime.

Adult

2,971
ADULT
PROGRAMS

86.8K
ATTENDANCE

106%
INCREASE
in Youth Programs
from previous year



Artist Windy Chien demonstrating knot-making at the Night of Ideas.

Tech Time: Computer Literacy Programs

We're Here to Get You There

SFPL continues to support the economic health of its patrons by offering opportunities to increase computer literacy, English proficiency and career development.

4.23K

ATTENDANCE
at computer
classes

229%

INCREASE
in computer
literacy offerings
from previous year

973

PATRONS
attended
ESL programs

Work it: Jobs, Business & Finance Programs

350+

Work it
Programs

7.48K

PATRONS
attended *Work it*
Programs

Work it
Jobs • Business • Finance



"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 cotenant residency exclusion at the property tax portion is going to result in my saving a substantial amount of money every year."

— Patron, February 2023



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

Summer Stride 2023



16K
FINISHERS

53%
INCREASE
IN FINISHERS
from previous year

\$1.3M
BOOK
GIVEAWAY
BUDGET
for the community

This summer, San Franciscans were able to enjoy unprecedented access to K-Fai Steele, the 2023 Summer Stride artist. In partnership with local publisher Chronicle Books and the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, SFPL hosted Steele at seven events at the Main Library, branches and the Friends' block party on Potrero Hill. Additionally, Steele led a nature-inspired sketching workshop in the gardens of Alcatraz Island alongside National Park Service Ranger Oliver and threw an "Arty Search Party" during a Free Family Day at SFMOMA, resulting in a unique "by kids, for kids" guide to the museum.



One City One Book



The pioneering nonfiction book *This Is Ear Hustle* by acclaimed podcasters Earlone Woods and Nigel Poor was selected as this year's One City One Book all-city read. Longtime fans of libraries, Woods and Poor visited every SFPL location prior to their showcase author event. And throughout fall 2022, San Franciscans were treated to 28 total programs related to the themes of the book, including racist policing, prisoner advocacy and activism and arts education in prisons. In addition to these events, original drawings from the book by formerly incarcerated artist Damien Linnane were exhibited in the Main Library's Atrium and a display of portraits from *Facing Life*, a multimedia project by journalist/educator Pendarvis Harshaw and documentary photographer and filmmaker Brandon Tauszik.



Patron Responses to the *Facing Life* exhibit:

"Thank you for sharing their stories. It's important to shine a light on their humanity and also on how difficult the transition to life on the outside can be without assistance and with the way it's so difficult to find work with a record." — Patron

"Thank you so much for giving these folks a voice. We all have a story & we deserve to be heard." — Patron, November 3, 2022

Anna May Wong Celebration



On October 25, the United States Mint debuted a new Anna May Wong quarter as part of its American Women Quarters™ Program at a community celebration at the Main Library. The quarter is the fifth coin in the four-year series that celebrates the accomplishments and contributions made by women who have shaped history. A pioneering Hollywood actress, Wong is the first Asian American to be featured on a U.S. coin.

Night of Ideas Back at the Main



On March 4, the Main Library once again hosted the popular Night of Ideas with the Villa Albertine, KQED, SFMOMA and Circuit Network. Headliners included: Juanita MORE!; SF Poet Laureate Tongo Eisen-Martin; Oakland Poet Laureate Ayodele Nzinga; Assessor-Recorder Joaquín Torres; rising star French environmental philosopher Baptiste Morizot; celebrated Animal Orchestra composer Bernie Krause; Gilda Gonzales, CEO of Planned Parenthood, Northern California; award-winning children's book authors Mac Barnett and Shawn Harris; inventive electronic musician and composer Pamela Z; legendary surf band the Mermen and many more. More than 5,000 people attended this year's event.

Drumbeats, Heartbeats: Communities as One



On February 15, the Koret Auditorium hosted a celebration of Black History Month and the Lunar New Year on behalf of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, Office of London N. Breed, Booker T. Washington Community Service Center, APA Heritage Foundation, Chinese Historical Society of America, University of San Francisco and Both Sides of the Conversation.



The event featured artists:

- Ruby Ibarra
- Kyle Shin, aka Son of Paper
- Tenor Saxophonist Howard Wiley
- Pianist Jon Jang
- Duniya Dance Company
- LionDanceME

Artist in Residence Program



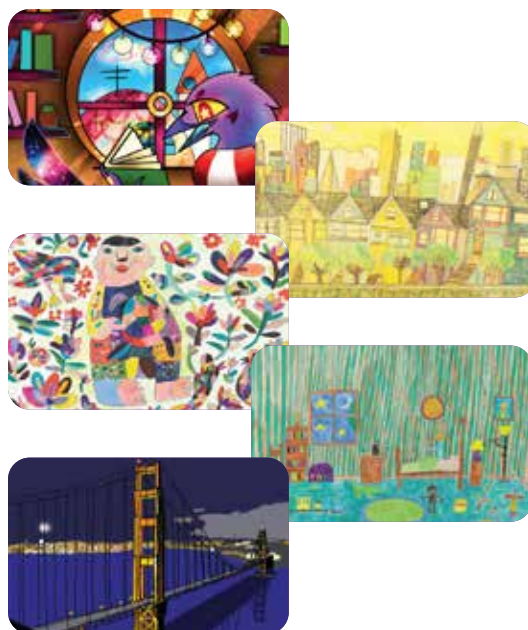
The San Francisco Arts Commission in partnership with San Francisco Public Library launched a new Artist in Residence program. The four inaugural artists included:

- James Q. Chan (filmmaker)
- Gazelle Samizay (multimedia artist)
- tanea lunsford lynx (writer/educator)
- Xandra Ibarra (multimedia artist)

The artists spent 10 weeks in residence conducting research and embedding into the fabric of day-to-day activities at the Library, both behind the scenes and interfacing with the public. Each artist then responded by creating artwork reflecting on their one-of-a-kind residency experience.

Creativity Explored Library Card Contest

For 40 years, the San Francisco-based nonprofit Creativity Explored has cultivated the artistic talents of developmentally disabled adults, delighting and inspiring audiences around the country. In honor of its anniversary, the studio-based collective partnered with San Francisco Public Library to bring a unique exhibition/competition, *Library Cards by Creativity Explored*, featuring 30 reproductions of artworks inspired by the library, to the Main Library's 4th Floor. From February 18 to March 31, more than 2,700 people voted in person or online for their favorite works. The five winners were: Isaías Gomez, Andrew Wong, Guadalupe Ramos, Nubia Ortega and Hiro Medina. Their designs are now available at every location.



Return of Potrero Branch exhibition



On 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

Día de los Niños

On April 30, the Library and Department of Early Childhood hosted the popular block party Día de Los Niños/Día de los Libros Festival at Parque Niños Unidos on 23rd and Folsom Streets in the Mission. The 24th edition featured an exciting lineup of fun and entertainment that included the bookmobile, art activities, free book giveaways and performances by Danza Azteca Xitlalli-Xolotl and the bubble magic of Big Top Bubble.



27th Effie Lee Morris Lecture

The 27th annual Effie Lee Morris Lecture was held in person for the first time since 2019. This year's honoree, Dr. Jewell Parker Rhodes, spoke on "Words as Witness, Words as Healing" to a multi-generational audience. She also participated in a virtual class visit with youth from El Dorado Elementary and San Francisco Community School.

Students in the two schools had read her books as part of SFPL's Effie Lee Morris OWLs Book Club. Her numerous award-winning and bestselling books for young people include *Ghost Boys*, *Paradise on Fire*, *Bayou Magic* (part of the Louisiana Girls trilogy), *Black Brother*, *Black Brother* and many others.



PRIDE

San Francisco Public Library went all out for Pride this year. In addition to participating in the parade for which we won the Absolutely Fabulous Award, the Library hosted a series of programs for all ages. Highlights include Drag Story Hours, Pride-themed crafts, film screenings and author talks. On June 29, the Main Library's Hormel LGBTQIA+ Center presented Remembering Club Q, an event celebrating San Francisco's famed '90s queer women's monthly dance party through film, archival photos and a star panel featuring Club Q founder and legendary DJ Page Hodel, choreographer Richelle Donigan and educator, artist and SFPL Artist-in-Residence tanea lunsford lynx.



First Partner Visit



This summer, California First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom was joined by Mayor London N. Breed, City Librarian Michael Lambert, California State Librarian Greg Lucas and CA Poet Laureate Lee Herrick for a tour of The Mix. Thirty San Francisco teenagers involved in the Library's Youth Engaged in Library Leadership (YELL) program participated in a series of poetry, dance and creative workshops and presented a showcase in honor of the First Partner.

Bay Beats Launch

On April 26, San Francisco Public Library announced the launch of a new streaming platform, Bay Beats, to provide local talent with a platform for expanding their audiences and reach. From May 1 through July 31, 2023, the Library accepted submissions for consideration from across all genres, from Jazz to Soul, Rap to Rock, Classical to Noise and everything in between.

All music lovers, even those without an SFPL library card, can stream commercial-free, curated music on Bay Beats when it launches in the fall of 2023. As an additional bonus, the Bay Beats platform includes links to artists' websites so fans can find out about live shows and buy music and merchandise. With this new platform, SFPL is providing a much-needed showcase for local musical talent.



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, we've developed and nurtured several important practices to support Phase I of the Racial Equity 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. During 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. Racial Equity at the Library (R.E.A.L.) Talks 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

Flip the Script: Imposter syndrome, professionalism and public libraries

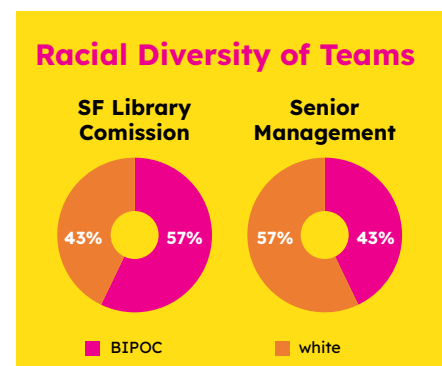
Cultural Competency in Programming: What do culturally affirming programs and spaces look like at SFPL?

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

We were fortunate to hire SF Fellow Hernan Soto who came 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 LGBTQIA+ Affinity groups in order to provide a safe space to share common experiences and to invite staff to continue the conversation on how to take actions toward creating a transformative institution—actions that require all hands on deck.



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 SFPLs). Without you life navigating this amazingly wonderful place for international, local and virtual research, lectures, exhibits, workshop, 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



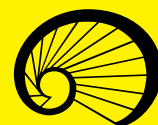
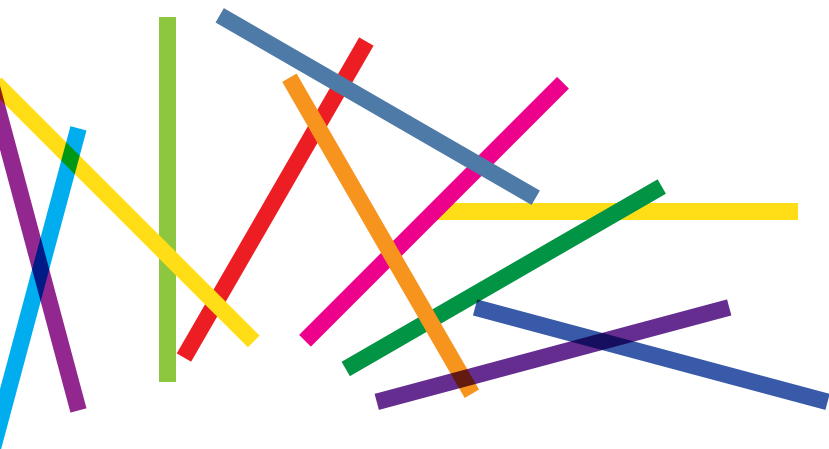
On September 14, Mayor Breed announced \$13.2 million in grants awarded through California's Building Forward Library Improvement Grant Program to renovate the historic Mission and Chinatown/Him Mark Lai branches. The grants provide the needed funding to upgrade both branches to state-of-the-art library facilities while maintaining their historic significance.

The California State Library Building Forward initiative awarded the Mission Branch project \$5.2 million and the Chinatown/Him Mark Lai Branch renovation nearly \$8 million. 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 Chinatown Branch 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.





San Francisco
Public Library