



# Annual Report FY 2022–2023

Michelle Jeffers, Chief of Public Programs & Partnerships  
November 16, 2023  
San Francisco Library Commission



# SFPL Annual Report

- 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



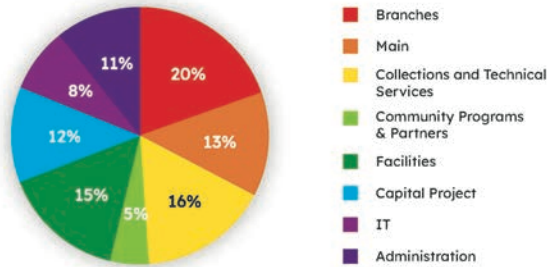
**San Francisco Public Library**  
**Annual Report FY 2022-2023**



# Budget

by the numbers

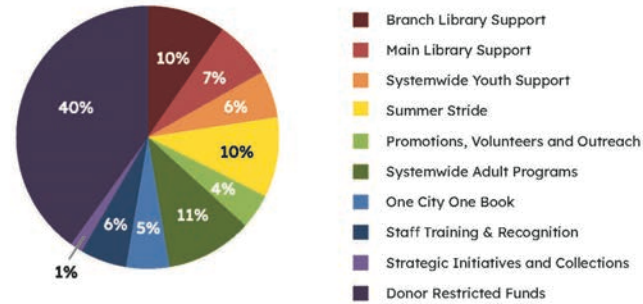
**FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget**  
Total Expenditures: \$185,700,000



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
Capital Project	\$22.31
IT	\$15.11
Administration	\$19.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$185.70</b>

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

**Grant Expenditures FY 2022-2023**  
Total Expenditures: \$671,700



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.

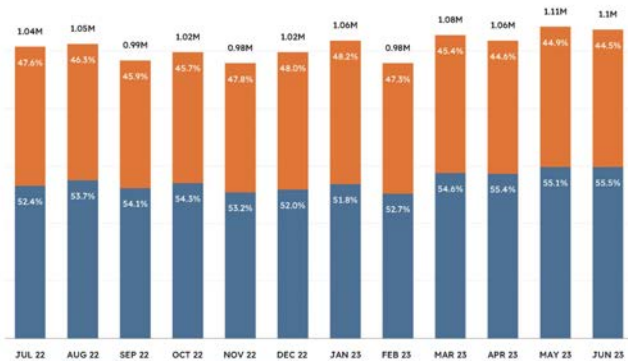
FRIENDS BUDGET	FY24
Branch Library Support	\$64,900
Main Library Support	\$47,800
Systemwide Youth Programs	\$38,800
Summer Stride	\$66,300
Promotions, Volunteers and Outreach	\$29,000
Systemwide Adult Programs	\$71,300
One City One Book	\$35,800
Staff Training and Recognition	\$38,500
Strategic Initiatives and Collections	\$10,300
Donor Restricted Funds	\$269,000
<b>Total Friends Funds</b>	<b>\$671,700</b>



# Data for the win

## Check Out Our Checkouts

Physical: 6,745,374  
E-circulation: 5,784,792  
Total Circulation: 12,513,943



**393.4K**  
PHYSICAL MATERIALS ADDED to the collection

Number of physical materials added to the collection:  
In FY23, SFPL added 393,445 physical materials to the collection.

**53.9K**  
NON-ENGLISH PHYSICAL MATERIALS ADDED to the collection

Number of physical materials in languages other than English:  
In FY23, SFPL added 53,903 physical materials in languages other than English.



**612**  
PARK PASSES in circulation

In partnership with the California State Library and California State Parks, SFPL has 612 park passes to circulate to patrons to encourage visits to state parks. In FY23, these passes circulated 2,350 times (each pass circulated almost 4 times).

**2.35K**  
TIMES park passes were checked out

## Public Programs at a Glance

### Youth

**6,030**  
YOUTH PROGRAMS

**185.4K**  
ATTENDANCE

**223%**  
INCREASE in Youth Programs from FY 22



Librarian Eric reading at storytime.

**2,208**  
STORYTIMES PROGRAMS in Y22

**74.26K**  
ATTENDANCE

**381%**  
INCREASE in Storytime programs

### Adult

**2,971**  
ADULT PROGRAMS in Y22

**86.8K**  
ATTENDANCE

**106%**  
INCREASE in Adult Programs



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

**973**  
PATRONS attended ESL programs

## Work it: Jobs, Business & Finance programs

**350+**  
WORK IT Programs

**7.48K**  
PATRONS Attending Work it Programs



"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



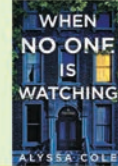
On June 13, for the first time since the pandemic, SFPL held a graduation for nine students who completed the Career Online High School (COHS) Program. Library card holders who are 18 years or older and a California resident can earn an accredited high school diploma through SFPL for free. The program 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



# A look back at what was hot

## 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*



# Milestones, Awards & Celebrations



SFPL Celebrates  
**12 MILLION**  
Checkouts

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



# Milestones, Awards & Celebrations



Mover & Shaker  
**Jaena Rae  
 Cabrera**

## 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

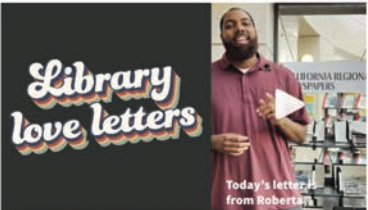
## Award-Winning Library Love Letters Campaign

Deputy Director of Communications 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.



## 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 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 dollars 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 dollars and the Chinatown/Him Mark Lai Branch renovation 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 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.



# 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's been several important practices we've developed and nurtured to support Phase I 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. 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. The 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 where we 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 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 institution; an action that requires all hands on deck. Let's move together!





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

# Thank you!

FINAL REPORT COMING DECEMBER 2023

