

Once you learn to read, you will be forever free. —Frederick Douglass

Exploration.

Exploring opportunities to positively impact children's literacy has been on the front line of our work since 2011,

when we became aware of the newly formed Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (CGLR), an initiative of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. CGLR's message was clear: more kids could not read in America than could, and poor kids, black and brown kids, were disproportionately affected.

In 2000, the National Reading Panel recommended a course of action to address America's embarrassingly low reading levels, which included evidence-based direct instruction known as the Science of Reading. New neurological

exploration discovered that areas on the left side of the brain 'light up' as reading capabilities develop – an area now nicknamed the reading highway – and memorization develops on the right side of the brain. This research also led to our current understanding of dyslexia, a genetic processing disorder that makes reading harder. Dyslexia affects 10-20% of all readers and, like many physical disorders, is measured on a continuum.

Dozens of curriculum publishers have embraced the Science of Reading to create explicit instruction, but getting that curriculum into the classroom is difficult. By implementing the Science of Reading through legislation, the state of Mississippi catapulted from the bottom to the top, in 3rd grade reading proficiency. Quite an accomplishment.

ex·plo·ra·tion
\ eksplə'rāSH(ə)n \

Noun

1. The action of traveling in or through an unfamiliar area in order to learn about it:

“voyages of exploration”

“an exploration of the African interior”

What we can do in Sacramento is advocate for our schools to train teachers in evidence-based instruction and support after-school literacy programs to help students with dyslexia.

With your continued support, we can help our schools, families, and literacy providers to use this information to help all of Sacramento's kids read.

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Domantas Sabonis (NBA Kings player) and our Foundation treated three hundred students at Carol Wentzel elementary School to a book giveaway. (see pg. 3)



Dyslexia Myths and Facts

The National Center on Improving Literacy, working to improve outcomes for students with literacy-related disabilities, including dyslexia, shared “5 Things We Want You to Know about Dyslexia All Year Long” with educators this past fall. Here is a synopsis:

- 1. Dyslexia is brain-based.** Certain brain regions that are important for reading may develop and/or function differently in students with dyslexia. For more information visit *Understanding Dyslexia*.
- 2. Early identification of risk for dyslexia will change lives.** Schools can screen for dyslexia risk using a quick, simple reading assessment for all students. Learn more at *School-based Screening for Dyslexia Risk*.
- 3. A strong school system uses data to help every student access the right reading supports.** For students with or at risk for dyslexia, high-quality instruction and intervention supports are essential. For more information, visit *Using Data to Identify School-based Supports for Students*.
- 4. Focused, explicit, and systematic reading instruction in five essential components** - phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension- benefits all students and is critical for students with dyslexia. Learn more at *Effective Reading Instruction for Students with Dyslexia*.
- 5. Careful, data-based adjustments to what we teach** and how we teach it can improve learning for students with dyslexia. Instruction and intervention should be intensified using practices shown to be effective. Find out more in our toolkit on *Intensifying Instruction for Students with Dyslexia*.

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MISSION

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation’s mission is to improve lives by collaborating with organizations in our community to advance literacy skills.

VISION

Our vision is to have all children and all adults develop the literacy skills they need to fully participate in our economy and in our democracy.

OUR GOALS

- Put diverse high-quality books in Promise Zone students’ hands and homes
- Support evidence-based curriculum in classrooms and after school programs
- Expand summer reading programming and funding

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The Sacramento Literacy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Please consult your tax advisor.
Tax ID #68-0029756.



Our very own Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) was selected as the project lead on the California Dyslexia Initiative (CDI).

SCOE is working in partnership with the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Dyslexia Center to build capacity and resources across California’s educational systems to address the needs of struggling readers and students with dyslexia.

Sign up for SCOE’s newsletter at https://www.scoe.net/divisions/ed_services/curriculum/cadyslexia/





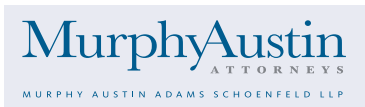
MEET THE BOARD:
Jeannie Wong

We are thrilled to announce that Jeannie Wong has joined the Foundation’s Board of Directors. Jeannie brings a wealth of expertise in journalism, communications and marketing. We are grateful that Jeannie is willing to explore, with us, how we can better shape our messaging. As a Senior Associate Vice President at Sacramento State, Jeannie oversees university-wide communications and marketing, including media relations, crisis communications, social media, multimedia, and brand and visual identity. She helped develop the award-winning campaign Made at Sac State. In 2018, President Robert S. Nelsen appointed her to his Cabinet, where she continues to serve as a member of his senior leadership team.

Prior to joining Sacramento State, Jeannie served as part of the upper-management newsroom team at The Sacramento Bee. A lifelong learner, Jeannie is a passionate advocate for literacy, education, equity and community. She is a Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for the Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce and a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum, Mountain Valley Chapter (ALF-MVC). She helps coordinate the ALF-MVC Racial Equity & Inclusion affinity group.

Born and reared in Los Angeles, Jeannie graduated from the University of Southern California and is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society. She lives in Sacramento with her husband and their two daughters.

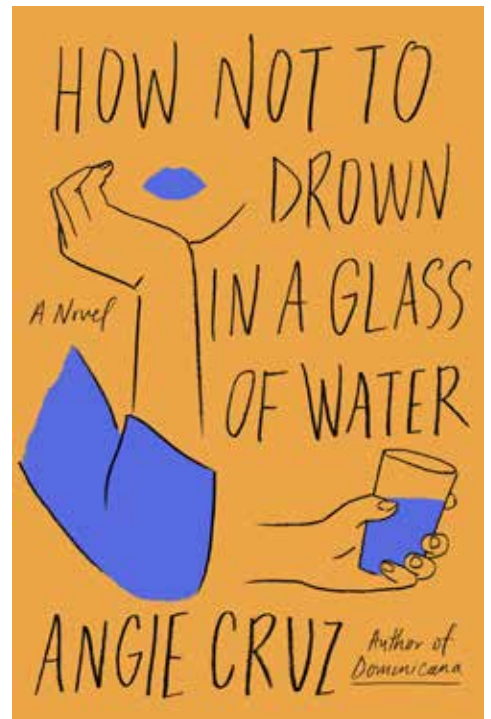
Promise Zone Literacy Initiative



We continue to explore new ways to achieve our goals. This December we found fun community events to support, focused on giving books away to kids in and near the Sacramento Promise Zone.

Hundreds of families attended La Familia’s annual Christmas festival for families experiencing financial insecurity. We proudly donated 600 diverse, bi-lingual, Latin-X facing books which were immediately given to kids from ages 1-17 attending the festival. A Big thank you to Murphy Austin who made this possible.

Domantas Sabonis (NBA Kings player) and our Foundation treated three hundred students at Carol Wentzel elementary School to a book giveaway. **We are thrilled to see Kings players in the community promoting literacy and are developing ways to continue to work with Sabonis on his literacy initiatives.**



Authors on the Move! 2023

Authors on Move 2023 is hosting award winning author Angie Cruz and her newly released novel, *How Not to Drown in A Glass of Water*.

According to Natasha Deón from the LA Times, “How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water,” will have you laughing line after line, even when you wonder if you should be. (The answer is always yes!)”

SAVE THE DATE:
March 11, 2023 | 5pm – 10pm
Kimpton, The Sawyer,
Sacramento

Sponsor tables are available now.

We have our work cut out for us. Donate today at www.sacramentoliteracy.org/give-today.

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Lois Ann Rosenberg

Contributions received November 2, 2022 through January 20, 2023.

Summer Reading Grant Opportunity

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation will open its grant application period on February 1st for children's literacy projects that are conducting summer reading programs within Sacramento County in 2023.

More information and applications are available at www.sacramentoliteracy.org/summer-reading-grant.