

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

Progress.

We are making progress. On March 2, 2022, we will be one year into bringing our new mission, vision, and goals to fruition. March 2022 also bookends the second year of living under a pandemic. With a new direction to help all children read and an overwhelmed education community, we have taken on the task of developing strategies and laying the groundwork for a future where all children in Sacramento can read.

As a community foundation focused on literacy, we are developing our role as convener and funder. As a convener we are working to bring national resources and relationships from the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading and the California Reading Coalition to Sacramento. We are

expanding the community literacy map project with a statewide map so that we might learn from other municipalities and measure the true impact of COVID-19.

As a funder we are programmatically focused on funding initiatives that put books into children's homes, offer summer reading programming, and help schools advance evidence-based reading instruction through curriculum, after school supports, and teacher training. And like all community foundations, we are also interested in endowment strategies that can secure literacy support into the future.

Our collection of literacy and literary events are all designed to support our operations and literacy programs in the community. We are excited for our future and the opportunities that are emerging. Our ability to continue to make progress is because of you and the year over year annual support that you give. Thank you!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- P. 2** • Summer Reading Grant Announcement
- All-America City Award Update
- P. 3** • Literacy Successes
- Meet the Board
- Volunteer Spotlight
- P. 4** • Thank You to our Donors



The local convener for the Campaign For Grade-Level Reading in Sacramento.



SB 488 SIGNED! (See pg. 3)

progress /progress/

noun

1. forward or onward movement toward a destination.

verb

1. move forward or onward in space or time.

Authors
on the Move! 2022

Our 20th anniversary will debut our new name and mission, and our keynote speaker is *New York Times* bestselling debut novelist Zakiya Dalila Harris, author of *The Other Black Girl*. To see all 24 authors participating this year, check out www.sacramentoliteracy.org/authors-on-the-move. The event will happen on March 12, 2022 from 5pm – 10pm at Kimpton, The Sawyer. See you there!



As a reminder, our COVID-19 policy mandates that guests and authors have received full COVID-19 vaccinations.





RFP GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT: Summer Reading Grant Opportunity for Local Literacy Nonprofits and Schools

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation will open its grant application period on February 1st for children's literacy organizations and programs that are conducting summer reading programs within Sacramento County in 2022. The grant funding reflects the annual distribution from the Children's Literacy Endowment combined with direct gifts to summer reading programs.

"We are encouraging organizations that are providing summer reading programming for Sacramento County youth ages birth through 18 to apply," says April L. Javist, Executive Director of the Sacramento Literacy Foundation. "We would especially like programs and projects that include collaborative partners and result in more books in children's homes." To make sure we have a robust application group, we have conducted an environmental scan of summer reading opportunities in Sacramento County and will be reaching out to those groups with summer reading programming.

Grant applications will be accepted through April 4, 2022. Grantees will be announced on the morning of May 5, 2021, the Big Day of Giving. **More information and applications are available at www.sacramentoliteracy.org/summer-reading-grants.**

All-America City Award Grant Update

The All-America City Award 2022 is being co-hosted by the National Civic League and the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading with the theme "Housing as a Platform to Promote Early School Success and Equitable Learning Recovery." This is a great opportunity for Sacramento's literacy and housing communities to further solidify the literacy work being done in low income and affordable housing as well as advance new initiatives that bring literacy to the door of those who need it most.

The Promise Zone, led by Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, and the Literacy Foundation are working together to lead this application. Focus

areas include: (1) Digital Equity, (2) Relational Supports, (3) After-School, Summer and Out-of-School Learning Opportunities, (4) Transforming Non-School Places and Spaces into Learning-Rich Environments., (5) Promoting School Readiness and Regular Attendance and Summer Learning, (6) Parents Succeeding as Essential Partners in Assuring the Healthy Development and Early School Success of Their Children and (7) Parents Succeeding in Their Own Journey Toward Sustainable Self-Sufficiency.

If your organization is interested in participating please reach out to us at info@sacramentoliteracy.org.



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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

- Increase philanthropic literacy funding toward the goal of all children reading at grade-level
- Insert reading sciences into the community literacy and education systems
- Advocate for a fully literate community

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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.

Meet the Board



Randy Getz is an investment broker with CBRE, Inc. He is married to the artist Pat Mahony and together they are the parents of Camille, a film editor in Los Angeles. Randy is also on the boards of LAI-Sacramento, an international invitation-only land economics society, as well as the American River Natural History Association. Randy believes that “one’s ability to read deeply and well and to think critically have never been more important. The Sacramento Literacy Foundation is an important source of support for the development of important learning skills that will lead to a better informed, more knowledgeable and perceptive community now and into the future.” We’re excited to bring Randy onboard!



LITERACY SUCCESSES:

Senate Bill 488 Signed; Teacher Preparation at the Heart of Children Reading

On October 8, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 488 (Rubio, D-Baldwin Park) which will require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) to strengthen and advance teaching standards for new teachers that incorporate both the Science of Reading and the California Dyslexia Guidelines. SB 488 will sunset the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) and replace it with a new Literacy Teaching Performance Assessment (LTPA) that will include assessing instruction on foundational reading skills.

The CTC has eliminated many of its teaching standards with respect to reading instruction over the past two decades. This new law will require CTC to not only strengthen its standards but to do so with increased transparency and accountability including engaging stakeholders and reporting back to the state legislature on its progress.

SB 488 will mandate that accredited teacher preparation programs provide coursework in evidence-based reading instruction (i.e. the Science of Reading) and that new teachers will get the training and support they need to first learn and then teach evidence-based reading curriculum.

“When I started my career as a classroom teacher I quickly discovered my teacher preparation program left me ill-equipped for my most important job, teaching children how to read. SB 488 will help ensure California teachers enter the profession better prepared with knowledge of the Science of Reading and the evidence-based instructional practices proven most effective for the most number of students.”

- Megan Potente, Co-State Director of Decoding Dyslexia CA

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Latitia Clay



In December, Latitia Clay helped us

donate over 300 holiday books to children at the Mustard Seed

School, the Sacramento Children’s Home, the River Oak Center for Children, and the Children’s Receiving Home. She also regularly helps us with donor outreach and mailing books to children in tutoring programs.

Latitia is originally from Terrell, Texas, and has made California her home for over 50 years. Latitia’s first grade nickname was “Teach” because she loved school and loved teaching others. In the seventh grade she peered into her first microscope “and never looked up,” going on to earn her bachelor’s degree in Biology and then build a career as a Clinical Laboratory Scientist. She’s an avid gardener, reader, and grandmother who loves to play “spelling bee” with her grandchildren. She’s also becoming a reading tutoring with 916 Ink’s Read On!

After her first Walk 4 Literacy, Latitia says that the Foundation’s “mission, visions and goals have become some of my personal goals.” Thank you to Latitia – we are thrilled you have chosen to spend your volunteer time with us!

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

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*Contributions received November 6,
2021 through January 6, 2022.*