

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

Community.

Our education community, our students and their families, our teachers and educators, and our literacy nonprofits

are working hard to manage the ambiguity that this pandemic has poured into every classroom since March of 2020. By the time we get back to a standard in-person learning environment, we will have spent 18 months learning in new ways and – in many cases – not learning. Learning loss, also coined as the COVID Slide, is projected to erode reading levels by 10% - 20% nationally.

The Sacramento Promise Zone, one of the most underserved communities locally, is a federally designated community that

we are partnering with to advance literacy rates. The Promise Zone gives us the opportunity to support deliberate literacy interventions that will be measured by the Community Literacy Map. We are partnering with the Sacramento Promise Zone to build a community approach to advancing grade-level reading at an accelerated pace.

The Promise Zone Literacy Initiative has a 3-pronged approach. First, we put 30,000 books in the homes of 4,000 K-2nd grade kids who live in the Promise Zone. We will continue to find ways to build those home libraries. Second, we will make distributions from the Children’s Literacy Endowment for Summer Reading initiatives in the Promise Zone. And third, we will support the 19 elementary schools in the Promise Zone to adopt reading

Com·mu·ni·ty

\ kə-'myū-nə-tē /

1. A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.
2. A feeling of fellowship with others as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.

curriculum that embeds the Science of Reading. As we progress, we will continue to learn how best to support our education community and we welcome community suggestions.

With your support, we will continue to advance children’s literacy in Sacramento by bringing our communities together to create a fully literate student body and workforce.

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SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION



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MISSION

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation's mission is to improve lives by collaborating with organizations in our community to advance reading and writing skills.

VISION

Our vision is to have all children and all adults develop the reading and writing 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

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NEWSLETTER LAYOUT
T.Dogg Studios

Children's Literacy Endowment First Disbursement is \$39,000

In 2014, the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Literacy Foundation voted to establish an endowment for Children's Literacy, with the intent to provide direct support for summer reading programs. The Literacy Foundation is excited for this endowment to make its first annual distribution - this year up to \$39,000 - in support of summer reading programs for children in the Sacramento Promise Zone. As part of its Promise Zone Literacy Initiative, the Foundation will be granting out funds to public elementary schools and local nonprofits who are ensuring that their students participate in summer reading programs.

Summer Reading, kindergarten readiness and school attendance are the top three factors impacting a child's ability to read at grade-level. According to research, reading five age-appropriate books is what

it takes to hold onto earned reading skills. Summer Reading programs are a great way to engage children during summer recess and prevent summer learning loss. Summer of 2021 will be a critical time to prevent further decreases in grade-level reading and can serve a more vital role in accelerating grade-level reading proficiency.

For more information about this process, please visit: www.sacramentoliteracy.org/summer-reading-grants. If you would like to make a donation in support of summer reading in the Sacramento Promise Zone, go to www.sacramentoliteracy.org/give-today.

And finally, thank you to all the donors who have pledged your support for this endowment. Your support matters!



Walk 4 Literacy Gives \$11,500 to Sacramento Children



On May 6, 2021, the Big Day of Giving, the *Walk 4 Literacy* proceeds totaling \$11,500 were granted out to 4 community organizations: 916 Ink, City Year Sacramento, Sacramento Children's Home, and St. Hope PS7 Elementary. The grant funding reflects 100% of net proceeds from last September's COVID influenced seventh annual *Walk 4 Literacy*. Sponsorship support from Anthem Blue Cross, Golden I, Murphy Austin

Adams Schoenfeld LLP, Sacramento State University, and Visions In Education made all the difference. The community organizations selected to receive funding will serve more than 500 children and include a family literacy initiative, virtual one-to-one reading tutoring, on-site after-school literacy intervention and giving books to 100 children. **Stay tuned for information about this year's upcoming Walk 4 Literacy 2021.**

NEWS HIGHLIGHT:

How Important are Books in the Home?

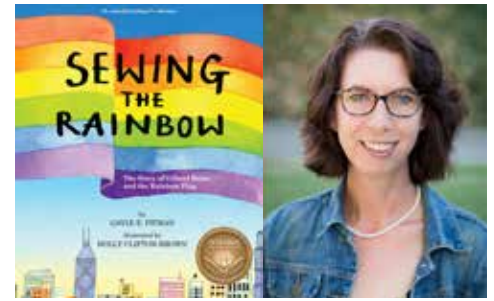
As Pacific Standard reports, research gathered between 2011-2015 confirms that people who grow up with books at home tend to have higher reading comprehension and better mathematical and digital communication skills. Likewise, a 20-year study from 2010 suggested that access to a home library impacts a child's educational attainment just as much as their parents' occupations and education levels. **Adding books to a child's home will be critical to improving literacy for our community.**



Big Day of Giving Recap

The Big Day of Giving brought great energy

and raised over \$13,200,000 for community nonprofits. A big thank you to the Sacramento Region Community Foundation - the day provided a fantastic opportunity to share our message of wanting all children to read. The Foundation is grateful to the 67 donors who helped us raise \$15,816. All of the financial support received on the Big DOG will advance the Foundation's strategic vision to improve children's literacy and will be used to advance the Promise Zone Literacy Initiative, host Literacy Events, and continue to build endowments that will secure children's literacy into the future. **We are grateful for your support. Thank you!**



Authors
ON THE ZOOM! 2021

Authors on the Zoom – June Zoom

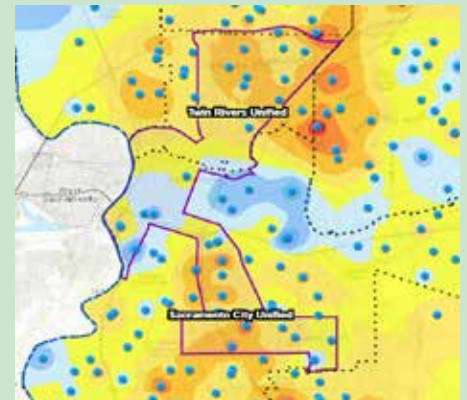
In the spirit of continuing Authors on the Zoom, we

have a June 19th Zoom event with local authors Dr. JaNay Brown-Wood and Dr. Gayle Pitman. Dr. JaNay Brown Wood and Dr. Gayle Pitman both write for young readers. They each bring a personal mission and drive to their writing, which is influenced by their experience as educators, parents, and community leaders. Come listen to these trailblazing authors talk about why they specialize in writing for our youngest readers. Make sure to bring your kids and grandkids too, because we will have two storytime rotations where the children in your life will enjoy both stories read aloud by its author. The *June Zoom* will take place Saturday, June 19, 2021 from 9:30am - 11:00am. Tickets are \$50 per family and include a copy of each book with the author's signature inside.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.sacramentoliteracy.org/authors-on-the-move. To inquire further or learn about sponsor opportunities, call April Javist at 916-836-3556 or e-mail april@sacramentoliteracy.org.

THE PROMISE ZONE LITERACY INITIATIVE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

- 9,000 public elementary students in 19 schools
- 65%, or 5,850 students, **PRE-PANDEMIC**, are not at grade-level reading
- 75% to 80%, or 6,750 – 7,200 students, are estimated to not be at grade-level **POST-PANDEMIC**
- 84%, or 7,560 students, are eligible for the Free and Reduced-price Meals Program



PLEASE GIVE TODAY ONLINE AT
www.sacramentoliteracy.org/give-today

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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 March 10, 2021 through May 7, 2021.

E-mail Receipts

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation is shifting to digital receipts! Giving your e-mail address will allow you to stay up to date on community literacy news with an electronic version of the *Reader* and it will allow your charitable receipts to arrive faster and with less environmental impact. **Please share your e-mail address with the return envelope or send it to info@sacramentoliteracy.org today!**