

Democracy.

This is our first publication under our new name, the **Sacramento Literacy Foundation**. We offer this message to you at a time when our democracy is being tested and the demand for equity for all people is being made with renewed force. The future of our democracy will be profoundly strengthened if we make sure that every citizen has the reading skills they need to vote. Reading is the tool – the fishing pole – that gives everyone the same opportunity to make their voice heard and take control of their future. Reading is democracy's top equity tool.

Equity.

The Science of Reading tells us that one in three kids can pick up reading easily, but the other two need a stronger road map. The scope and sequence of reading instruction that has been discovered by reading scientists can potentially help 95% of our children become proficient readers. Getting this science into preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school classrooms is critical.

With your support, the Foundation has been able to enhance children's literacy and build relationships in the literacy community. Going forward we will build on these successes by providing funding to literacy nonprofit organizations, by advocating for policies and programs that help all children achieve grade-level reading and by continuing to bring information and awareness to the broader community. We are determined to advance literacy in Sacramento County.

Right now, fifty-one percent of children in Sacramento County still cannot read at grade-level, and while we have seen recent gains in children's literacy, COVID-19 is causing a nearly universal slide in reading skills.

We have our work cut out for us. Your support matters!

Once you learn to read, you
will be forever free.

—Frederick Douglass

de·moc·ra·cy

/də'mɑkrəsē/

1. The practice or principles of social equality.

eq·ui·ty

/'ækwədē/

1. The quality of being fair and impartial.

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:

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

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Newsletter Layout

T.Dogg Studios

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation is a dba for the Sacramento Public Library Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Tax ID #68-0029756. The Sacramento Literacy Foundation does not raise funds for the Sacramento Public Library.

Litigation with Library Authority Update.....

As reported in our previous Newsletters, on March 31, 2020, the Library Authority filed a lawsuit in the United States Federal District Court in Sacramento against the Foundation, Foundation President Jim Deeringer, and Foundation Executive Director April Javist. The Foundation filed a motion to dismiss the case, which the court granted in part and then sent the parties to mediation before a federal magistrate. On September 29, 2020, a settlement was negotiated and its terms placed on the record with the court. The final settlement agreement is currently being drafted. Since shortly after the settlement was placed on the record, we have done business as the Sacramento Literacy Foundation.

If you have any questions concerning this litigation, please contact Jim Deeringer at (916) 705-4463 or at jdeeringer@gmail.com.

What Is Changing – and What Isn't.....

Things are moving fast as we transition from the mission, vision and goals of the Sacramento Public Library Foundation to the **Sacramento Literacy Foundation**, and we are eager to hear from you in shaping our future. We have sent out a survey to our donors and our literacy partners so that we can start where our supporters and partners want us to start.

TAKE OUR SURVEY:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LiteracyFoundationDonorSurvey>

Our new website is www.sacramentoliteracy.org. Our newsletter will be issued quarterly or bi-monthly. A new look and feel will be coming soon, so keep an eye out. *Authors on the Move* will return as *Authors on the Zoom* in 2021 (see details on page 3), and we fully expect that *Authors on the Move 2022* will resume as an in-person gala event with a fantastic meal. The Community Literacy Map is current and being mined for data trends. The *Walk4Literacy* is happening in the fall of 2021, although we want to get some feedback about it before we take our next steps. *If you have suggestions, good jokes or more questions, e-mail us at info@sacramentoliteracy.org or call us at 916-836-3540.*



Campaign for Grade-Level Reading.....

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation remains the official convener of the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading here in Sacramento. The Community Literacy Map has energized Sacramento's Literacy Movement - a 10-year effort that began with SacReads in 2011 - to stay the course and find effective solutions to our children's reading gap.

For up to date literacy information and workshops available to you, go to www.gradelevelreading.net. This is a great website for people interested in current research and information about literacy.



walk4literacy.org

Walk4Literacy Announces Grant Opportunity for Local Literacy Nonprofits....

The *Walk4Literacy* will open its grant application period in March 2021 for children's literacy organizations within Sacramento County. The grant funding, a total of \$10,000, reflects 100% of fees from each individual, family, and group registration during last October's seventh annual *Walk4Literacy* event.

"We are encouraging smaller organizations that are doing a good job of providing literacy support for Sacramento County youth ages birth through 18 to apply," says April L. Javist, Executive Director of the Sacramento Literacy Foundation. "Especially programs and projects that include collaborative partners and use the Science of Reading."

Grant applications will be accepted through March 15, 2021. Grantees will be announced on the morning of May 6, 2021. More information and applications are available at www.walk4literacy.org.

Authors on the Zoom—March 2021.....



Authors on the Move is going virtual! Join us in March 2021 for *Authors on the Zoom*, which will be held over four weekends with four different themes and keynotes on each weekend. These weekends will feature Fiction, Nonfiction, Mystery, and Children’s and Young adult genres. After a keynote interview, guests will break out into smaller “book club” style rooms to speak to authors like at our in person gala event.

Tickets for the individual weekends go on sale January 1, 2021 on our website www.sacramentoliteracy.org. All ticket buyers will be mailed a copy of that night’s keynote’s book. There will also be a silent auction and Fund-a-Need that takes place over the entire month. To inquire further or learn about sponsor opportunities, call April Javist at 916-836-3556 or email at april@sacramentoliteracy.org.

Addressing The COVID-Slide.....

Whenever a child does not read for long stretches of time, they experience a loss in reading skills. During summer recess, children are vulnerable to the “summer slide”, where they lose 2-3 months of their reading skills. COVID-19 has disrupted traditional schooling and exacerbated this loss in literacy, resulting in a “COVID-Slide”. Research from the Northwest Evaluation Association estimated that all students would return to school with 70% of the reading skills they gained in the previous year. Assessments of our students are confirming these grim predictions. Dallas Independent School District reported that 29.3% of its students slid in reading skills compared to 2019. Low-income children Kindergarten through 5th grade without Internet access to virtual learning are suffering the largest decrease in literacy skills.

Our children need help reading now more than ever. It will take the entire community working together to solve this looming crisis. Read to the children in your family, volunteer to tutor a child at a nonprofit like the Lightning Squad, and donate to the Sacramento Literacy Foundation this holiday season. **Your support matters!**

Become an Inaugural Member of the Reading Council!.....



The Sacramento Literacy Foundation is establishing a Reading Council that asks

donors to commit to an annual contribution of \$5,000 toward a pool of money that will then be distributed to the community to further influence advances in literacy in Sacramento. The Council will be invited to participate in our grant cycle where we decide which organizations to award support.

2020 Foundation Financial Overview

Each year the Sacramento Literacy Foundation hires an independent auditor to make sure that donors can be confident that our financial policies and procedures meet and exceed financial requirements set forward by the IRS and the California Attorney General. For the ninth year in a row, Mann Urrutia Nelson CPAs and Associates, LLP has issued an unmodified opinion of the Foundation’s financial statements.

WHERE YOUR SUPPORT WENT - BY THE NUMBERS

DISTRIBUTIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Books and Materials Endowment.... \$ 55,805
Sacramento Room Endowment \$ 51,848

LIBRARY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Summer Reading.....\$ 0
Various designations \$ 21,256

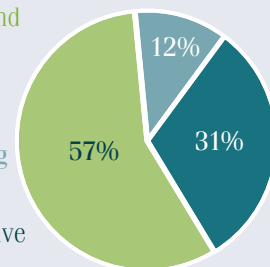
FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

Author Engagement \$ 162,730
Literacy Engagement \$ 194,463

FOUNDATION OPERATIONS

Total Foundation Admin..... \$ 264,700
Total Fundraising Costs \$ 99,430

- Programs and Support \$ 486,102
- Direct Fundraising \$ 99,430
- Administrative \$ 264,700



ENDOWMENT PERFORMANCE (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020)	As of 7/1/2019	As of 6/30/2020	Annual Return*
Books and Materials Endowment	\$ 1,243,508	\$ 1,207,924	- 3.0%
Sacramento Room Endowment	\$ 1,160,929	\$ 1,132,051	- 3.0%

* Includes distributions, withdrawals and fees. Our 990's and audited financial statements will be available on our website on February 1, 2021 by visiting www.sacramentoliteracy.org/financial-information/.

Thank you

Contributions received July 7, 2020 through November 16, 2020

Major Donors

(\$5,000+)

Golden 1 Credit Union
Barbara Jeanne Hansen
Visions In Education

Director's Circle

(\$1,000- \$4,999)

Ann M. Angelo
Anthem Blue Cross
Ahamadou & Isabelle Bocar
California State University,
Sacramento
Eric & Araceli Solis
The Dimick Family Fund
Donald & Gloria Yost

Laureates

(\$500 - \$999)

Downey Brand LLP
Dennis & Barbara Luther
Karen Neuwald
Judith & Willard Spaulding, Jr.
Dr. Michael & Sachiko
Sugawara
Teach For America

Bibliophiles

(\$250 - \$499)

Jack & Anne
Marie Bruner, MD
Mary Anne Cooper
Colleen D. Craig
Aleck & Nancy Darr
Randy & Patricia Getz
Wanda Lee Graves &
Stephen Duscha

James Henkel
Richard Hill
Cecile Kaplan
Janice & Ralph Livingstone
Venita Metzinger
Ted & Elba White
Ray & Carol S. Zelinski

Literati

(\$100 - \$249)

Jane Adan
Gilbert M. & Sharon L.B.
Andrade
Alvan & Patricia A. Arthur
Norman & Barbara Black
Ahamadou & Isabelle Bocar
Lynette T. & Derick J.
Brannan
Terrie Bressette & Lu J.
Hoge
Joan E. Brown
Charles & Lorraine V.
Bucaria
Mr. John A. Caputo III
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Madden Donovan
Bill & Misty Dunn
Scarlet La Rue Edber &
Harvey Edber
William Edgar
Mabel & Eugene Elliott
Maurice & Elizabeth Gloster

Morrison L. & Diane M. Graf
Mary J. Green
Jeff & Debbie Gualco
David Harmon
John & Nancy Henrickson
Spencer Hirotsu & Debra
Rogenmoser
John T. and Laurie Hosoume
Andrew Hudnut
Philip & Lindalee Huston
Judith Imel
April & Andrea Javist
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John W. & Karen C. Young
Gail Zimmerman

In Memory of

Charles R. Cooper
Fran Gulsh
Virginia Kovak
Ryan Emilio May
Jessie Morehead
Major James A. Patrick,
USMC (Ret)
Gerald C. Sanders
Nona Segal

In Honor of

Generous Neighbors in
Carson Creek Village
Robert Honaker

Named Endowments

Boxer Family
Daniel & Rhea Brunner
David & Maxine Clark
Family Fund
Sandra & Steven Felderstein
Friends of the Sacramento
Public Library
Indru & Pramila Kriplani
Trust
Nancy Lawrence & Gordon
Klein
Alex Law Memorial Fund
Beth Mullen
Denise & Nancy Marks
Persian Language Books,
Materials, and Programs
Lois Ann Rosenberg
Jack & Lilian Sioukas
George J. & Olga Suffa

Sacramento's 7th Annual Walk4Literacy, COVID Style.....



This year the Walk4Literacy was in every neighborhood, park, and community in Sacramento. Held virtually due to COVID-19, hundreds of devout literacy supporters stepped out during the month of September to celebrate Sacramento's designated Literacy month.

The goal of the *Walk4Literacy* is to create awareness and increase financial support for nonprofits addressing grade-level reading. We believe that the literacy crisis in Sacramento will be solved through a purposeful collaboration toward grade-level reading.

Thank you to all our sponsors, family registrants, and walk team leaders. Your support matters!

