

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

Measurable.

The Sacramento Literacy Coalition has been attending School Board meetings throughout the County asking school districts to adopt some version of Sacramento County Office of Education's (SCOE's) recent resolution on the Science of Reading.

There are 13 school districts in Sacramento County and the Coalition will have made presentations to at least nine of them by the end of February 2025.

The Foundation is the convener of the Sacramento Literacy Coalition and is focused on creating a culture where we

consistently discuss the data measuring reading proficiency – i.e., the measurable results. If we are going to solve the literacy crisis then we need to gather and understand the data measuring reading proficiency. In Sacramento County, only 38% of 3rd graders are at grade-level reading. On our website, you can find the California Literacy Map, which details by school site, throughout California, where kids can read at grade-level and where they can not. Parents, teachers, administrators, students, philanthropists, literacy providers, and policy makers use the map to access their local literacy data. Collective knowledge helps us develop collective solutions.

The Foundation also measures its fundraising and program results. Serving more kids means raising more funds.

meas·ur·a·ble
[ˈmeɪz(ə)rəb(ə)]
adjective

1. able to be measured: noticeable; definite.

To grow our year-over-year impact, we must grow our year-over-year support. This year we have launched the Right to Read Endowment Campaign which will allow us to continue to sustainably grow our impact. Our endowment strategy is a vital component of our sustainability.

In 2024, we grew our support, our staff, and our impact. We are so grateful for your increased contributions because it has allowed us to increase our impact.

It's an honor to work with you and the Sacramento Literacy Coalition to increase 3rd grade reading proficiency in Sacramento. Your support matters!

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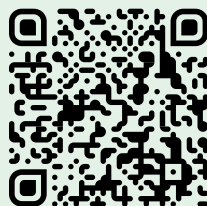
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NEW Literacy Report Card!

The California Literacy Map illustrates statewide progress on key literacy indicators over time and identifies where literacy resources and interventions are needed the most. Each year, the Foundation issues a Sacramento County Literacy Report Card. **Please see the annual Sacramento Literacy Report Card 2023-2024 in this publication.**



www.sacramentoliteracy.org



Giving monthly is helpful to our continued sustainability!

Please consider prioritizing children's literacy in your giving - the result will benefit us all.

SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION



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Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 836-3540 • sacramentoliteracy.org

MISSION

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation's mission is to help all children in our community read at grade-level.

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 culturally relevant high-quality books in students' hands and homes.
- Support evidence-based curriculum in classrooms and after school programs.
- Expand summer reading programming and funding.

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Sacramento Literacy Foundation READER • March—May 2025

Promise Zone Literacy Initiative

In December we participated in two holiday events where community members were given needed resources and holiday gifts for their children. At La Familia's Posada, we gave

away more than 200 culturally relevant high-quality books, allowing every child 1-17 to pick a book to take home. Additionally, we gave every student at Leataata Floyd Elementary School a book to take home for the holidays.



Summer Reading Grant Opportunity for Local Literacy Nonprofits and Schools

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation opened its grant application period on February 3, 2025 for children's literacy organizations and programs that are conducting summer reading programs within Sacramento County in 2025. The grant funding comes from our annual distribution from the Children's Literacy Endowment that is dedicated to summer reading programming.

"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 especially like programs and projects that include collaborative partners and result in more books in children's homes."

Grant applications will be accepted through April 4, 2025. Grantees will be announced on the morning of May 1, 2025, during the Big Day of Giving. More information and applications are available at www.sacramentoliteracy.org/summer-reading-grant/.

Social Media Intern Spotlight: Meet Tamara Robinson



Tamara is thrilled to join the Sacramento Literacy Foundation as the new Social Media Intern.

A dedicated high school student with a deep passion for education, she understands the profound impact of positive learning experiences. In 2023, Tamara's passion led her to volunteer at the Literacy Festival and a few book drives with her grandmother, Latitia Clay. Now, Tamara is eager to contribute to the foundation's growth while making a

meaningful difference in the lives of children. While balancing her academic responsibilities, Tamara is focused on engaging the community and raising awareness about the Foundation's work. She believes that fostering connections can amplify SLF's impact and ensure children receive the support they need to read and succeed. "Working with the team has been incredibly fulfilling," noted Tamara. In her spare time, Tamara enjoys being with her family, appreciating simple moments, listening to music, and staying active. She is excited about the future, both personally and professionally, and looks forward to the opportunities ahead.



Help us on the Big Day of Giving!

On the Big Day of Giving, we will be raising funds for culturally relevant high-quality books for our most under-resourced schools. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 which will help expand our reach and impact the lives of 1,500 more children. On this year's Big Day of Giving, we want to partner with YOU in helping all kids learn to read. Email us at info@sacramentoliteracy.org and we can co-create a fundraising page for you to share with friends, family, and colleagues.

Together, we can get ALL children reading!

Advocacy Update: Science of Reading

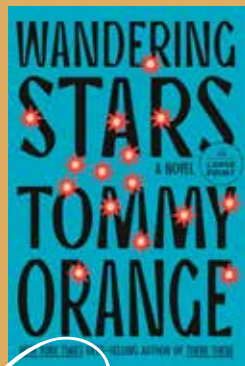


The Sacramento Literacy Coalition has made presentations about SCOE's Science of Reading resolution to all the major school districts; Elk Grove, Folsom-Cordova, Sacramento City, San Juan, and Twin Rivers and in some of the smaller districts; Robla, River Delta, Natomas, Galt and Center.

At each meeting we provided an overview of the reading and truancy rates in their district, a copy of the resolution, information about the Sacramento County Reads initiative and tools to integrate evidence-based teaching practices into their school sites. We are asking each district to adopt some version of the resolution. **Our effort is educating school district leaders about the current reading crisis and how we can work together to improve literacy rates.**

California Legislation: Evidence-based Reading Instruction Policy Still on the Horizon!

Last year, Assemblymember Blanca Rubio introduced AB 2222 to tackle California's early literacy crisis. Since then, advocates across the state have worked hard to ensure literacy remains a budget priority. Exciting progress is underway—the process for adopting a new ELA/ELD instructional materials list has begun, and efforts continue to effectively implement reading screeners. Soon, new legislation on evidence-based literacy instruction will be introduced to ensure educators receive proper training and materials to teach children how to read. We encourage advocates to sign our petition [here](#) and contact EdVoice Director of Government Affairs, Dominique Donette, at dominique@edvoice.org to get directly involved in advocacy efforts.



We are so excited to welcome Tommy Orange, author of *Wandering Stars* which was named a Best Book of the Year so far for 2024 by *The New York Times*.

This year we have brought together a diverse cohort of authors with a diverse range of auction items. We have some last minutes seats to fill so if you would like to attend, call the office at 916-836-3540 or email info@sacramentoliteracy.org



We are most grateful to our presenting sponsor, The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians and our table sponsors including CohnReznick, CSUS, SMUD, LifeSTEPS, Murphy Austin, Sierra Health Foundation and the Wilton Rancheria.



Authors on the Move! 2025

March 8, 2025 | The Kimpton Sawyer

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