



Los Angeles Public Library Closed Until Further Notice

Los Angeles, March 20, 2020—The Los Angeles Public Library has extended the closure of Central Library and the 72 branch libraries and now will be closed until further notice. The action is being taken in accordance with the latest city guidelines to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and to protect staff and patrons including the most vulnerable Angelenos.

During this time, due dates for borrowed materials will be automatically extended, no late fines will be assessed, and patrons can return materials when libraries reopen. The library will automatically renew borrowed materials through June 30.

Librarians will continue providing assistance through telephone reference (213) 228-7272 and the web-based service Ask-A-Librarian at www.lapl.org/ask-a-librarian.

The library's many digital services are available at lapl.org 24/7, and include e-books and e-audiobooks, streaming TV, movie and music services, classes, and digital subscriptions to newspapers and magazines.

"We understand the impact closing libraries has on all Angelenos and are taking this action at the direction of city and health authorities and out of an abundance of caution for the health of our patrons and staff," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "During this time we encourage people to access our librarians by telephone or online, and use our extensive digital resources through lapl.org."

The library continues to update a resource page at lapl.org/coronavirus with information about the COVID-19 virus.

Patrons can stay updated on the library by visiting its website at lapl.org and following its social media accounts (@lapubliclibrary).

A recipient of the nation's highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than 6 million books and state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org.

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