



Los Angeles Public Library Cancels Public Events in March All 73 Libraries Continue to Operate With Standard Hours

Los Angeles, March 12, 2020—The Los Angeles Public Library has canceled all programs, events and meeting room bookings through March 31. The action follows state and city recommendations and is taken as a precaution to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and protect staff and patrons including the most vulnerable Angelenos.

All libraries remain open and are providing services during standard hours. 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.

"The health and safety of our patrons and staff are our priority, and we are suspending public programs at the direction of health authorities and out of an abundance of caution," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "Our 73 libraries remain open and continue to offer essential library services."

The Library continues to follow best sanitation practices for workplaces and has removed toys and other difficult-to-sanitize playthings from children's areas and is in the process of increasing supplies of hand sanitizers and wipes.

The library has added a resource page at lapl.org/coronavirus with up-to-date information about the COVID-19 virus.

Patrons can stay updated on library services 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 provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for lifelong learning.

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