

**LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD REPORT**

July 23, 2026

To: Board of Library Commissioners
From: John F. Szabo, City Librarian
Subject: **ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT BY OBE Worldwide / The Infatuation**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT The Board of Library Commissioners adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That a gift to the Octavia Lab at the Central Library by OBE Worldwide / The Infatuation of \$5,000 be accepted and deposited in a new sub-account in Trust Fund 831, and;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to OBE Worldwide / The Infatuation for their generous support for the Octavia Lab.

FINDINGS:

1. On May 16 and 17, 2026, EeeeeatsconLA held an event at The Barker Hangar in Santa Monica. The Infatuation, an American New York–based restaurant recommendation website and messaging service, sponsored this event which featured restaurant menus from the Los Angeles Public Library’s collections.
2. Tien Nguyen, one of the LAPL’s Creators-in-Residence for 2025 as well as food and culture journalist, used our restaurant menu collection as a jumping off point to tell the story of Los Angeles—its neighborhoods, traditions, and migrations and worked with The Infatuation on this festival.
3. The Infatuation had an idea to display our restaurant menus from a few classic LA restaurants, plus menus related to the restaurants participating in the festival at The Barker Hangar. Large scale (20x20) reproductions of the menus were on display in the beer garden at the festival.
4. Several thousand people attended the festival over the course of the two days, bringing attention and engagement with our restaurant menu collection and the Los Angeles Public Library.

5. The Infatuation / OBE Worldwide offered an honorarium for our participation, and issued a check for \$5,000.

6. A letter of thanks should be sent to:

OBE Worldwide, LLC
c/o Treasure Smith
5220 Pacific Concourse Drive, Suite 160
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Prepared by: Ani Boyadjian, Research & Special Collections Manager

Reviewed by: Kren Malone, Central Library Director