



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

All 73 City Libraries to Re-Open Weekday Evenings Starting October 15

***Mayor Villaraigosa, Councilmembers & Students
Launch Restored Library Service at Press Conference at
Central Library, Monday, October 15, 10:30 a.m.***

LOS ANGELES – Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, councilmembers, local students and City Librarian John F. Szabo will launch the restoration of Monday and Wednesday evening and Friday morning service at all 73 City libraries at a press conference on the steps of the Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St, downtown on Monday, October 15, at 10:30 a.m.

Restoring hours on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Friday mornings starting October 15 marks the second phase in a series of four restorations of library services happening over four years. Measure L, a ballot initiative passed by voters last March, is providing the funds to restore library services.

The Mayor and City Councilmembers who spearheaded Measure L, Eric Garcetti and Tom LaBonge, will be joined by students from Dolores Huerta Elementary School, Library Commission President Dr. Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi and other dignitaries for the announcement.

The operating hours at the City's 73 libraries were slashed to their lowest level in the library's 140-year history in August 2010, following cuts to the City budget. Voter-approved Measure L gradually restores library service hours to the 2009 level over four years by increasing the Library's share of City funding without new taxes. Last year, in the first phase of Measure L, all libraries re-opened on Mondays. In 2014, the final phase of Measure L, nine libraries will re-open on Sundays.

(more)

Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

“Libraries are vital neighborhood resources,” Mayor Villaraigosa said. “It pained me greatly to make the decision to reduce library hours in 2010. Restoration gets the City back on track and one step closer to fully restoring our City’s library hours. None of this would have been possible without voter support of Measure L. Thanks to the commitment of Angelenos willing to invest in one of the most important and beloved institutions in the City, I am proud to say that the future of Los Angeles looks bright.”

New library hours starting October 15 are:

Central Library

Monday - Thursday:	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday & Saturday:	10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday & holidays	closed

Branch Libraries*

Monday & Wednesday:	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	12:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday & Saturday:	10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday & holidays	closed

*Note: Robertson Branch is closed Saturdays and holidays and open Sundays 1 - 5 p.m.

“Restoring weekday hours restores library access for people searching for jobs, taking computer classes, learning to read at our literacy centers and much more,” said City Librarian John F. Szabo. “Having libraries open during the evening is especially beneficial to children and students because we provide a safe, adult-supervised place with after-school programs, homework help, college prep workshops and free computer access—in short—all the resources children need to succeed in school and in life.”

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library and 72 branch libraries, more than six 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 life-long learning.

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