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“Lunch at the Library” to Feed Thousands of Children and Teens this Summer

Los Angeles, July 3, 2018 – To help ensure that no child goes hungry during their summer break from school, the Los Angeles Public Library is serving free meals to children and teens every weekday through August 3 at the Central Library in downtown and 14 branch libraries citywide. The “Lunch at the Library” program, which is a partnership between the library and the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, provides warm, nutritious meals at no cost to children between the ages of 2-18.

A complete list of participating “Lunch at the Library” locations along with times can be found online at lapl.org/summerlunch.

The program, which began in 2013, has grown in popularity with both children and their families as well as library staff and volunteers who serve the meals in library community rooms.

"The library recognizes the importance of a healthy meal for a young person's ability to learn and grow, and the library is pleased to help fill in when students are not in school," said Diane Olivo-Posner, Principal Librarian/Associate Director for the Exploration and Creativity Department, who oversees the library's summer lunch program. "Our summer lunch program provides a natural foundation where we can further engage with families who may not know of the amazing services and programs the library offers."

Over the first five years of the summer lunch program, close to 55,000 meals have been served, while the program has expanded from two locations in 2013 to 15 this summer.

In addition to serving lunches, the library offers a variety of programs and activities to keep the children and families that attend engaged and entertained. Some of the programs offered include music, games, STEAM activities, crafts and more.

(more)

Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

Additionally, as part of the Summer Author Series, which is funded by the Library Foundation of Los Angeles, top children's and young adult authors will visit Los Angeles Public Library branches, with some of the events corresponding with Summer Lunch.

Learn more about all of the summer programs hosted by the Los Angeles Public Library, including the annual Summer Reading Challenge, by visiting lapl.org/summer.

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, state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org, and more than 18,000 public programs a year provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles provides critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library resulting in free programs, resources and services available to the millions of adults, children and youth of Los Angeles. Through fundraising, advocacy and innovative programs, the Library Foundation strengthens the Los Angeles Public Library and promotes greater awareness of its valuable resources. For more information, please visit lfla.org.

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