



FOR RELEASE

Contact: Brenda J. Breaux 213.228.7558

**Skid Row Coffee, Created to Empower Those Struggling with Homelessness, Opens First Brick-and-Mortar Site, Monday, Nov. 5
Downtown Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St.**

LOS ANGELES, *November 2* – Skid Row Coffee opens the doors to its first brick-and-mortar location on Monday, Nov. 5, in the downtown Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St. The space will allow the former pop up to expand its mission of empowering the Skid Row community through job training programs, health and wellness workshops, and cultural programming.

The coffee shop was started two years ago as a pop-up by co-founders Danny Park and Andrew Kang, who were inspired by agencies that worked to empower the people who struggle with homelessness and other issues in the Skid Row area. Using donated coffee, the roving coffee shop is often set up in area parks and at events in the Skid Row where the community could gather and purchase affordable drinks.

“We’re excited for the opportunity to continue our work at the Central Library as it’s accessible for both Skid Row and greater downtown community,” Park said. “A community member once expressed that the library is like a natural resource for so many people. We look forward to more equitable cultural spaces, access to good food, and dignified jobs for all.”

Like the coffee shop, the Los Angeles Public Library’s mission includes assisting homeless and low income Angelenos. The Source, a one-stop shop for resources and services, is provided free once a month at the Central Library and five branch libraries. For more information, visit lapl.org/homeless-resources/the-source.

“At the Central Library and all 72 of our branch libraries, we welcome everyone,” said Susan Broman, Assistant City Librarian. “Our staff is thrilled to have a coffee shop and we are pleased that Skid Row Coffee shares our mission of serving the community that surrounds us.”

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

Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

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 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.

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