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## **New Exhibit, “LAPL150—Our Story is Yours,” Celebrates the Los Angeles Public Library’s 150th Anniversary**

***Opens at Central Library’s Getty Gallery on March 16***

**LOS ANGELES (March 15, 2023)**— Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the new exhibit, [LAPL150—Our Story is Yours: A Los Angeles Public Library Sesquicentennial Celebration](#), opening Thursday, March 16. A collection of photos and artifacts from the Library’s century and a half serving the people of Los Angeles will be on view in Central Library’s Getty Gallery, 630 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles.



*Library Bookmobile, circa 1950. Institutional Collection/Los Angeles Public Library.*

The exhibit is part of the Library’s system-wide [150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration](#), which kicked off in December 2022 with 150 days of special activities and programs at Central Library and the 72 branch libraries to mark the Library’s history.

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The exhibit includes a fascinating array of images and objects that tell the history of Los Angeles Public Library from its founding in a small pueblo of 6,000 people until now, when it serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the United States. It is a story that examines the growth of Los Angeles through the lens of its expanding library.

"Not many institutions in Los Angeles can claim a 150-year history, and we are enormously proud that the Los Angeles Public Library is one of them," said John F. Szabo, City Librarian. "And perhaps the most important constant through our century and a half of service has been our unwavering commitment to serve the community and provide the resources they need to learn and grow in a rapidly changing world. We continue to break new ground as a dynamic leader in equity, access, opportunity and empowerment."

"Through boom times and setbacks, the Los Angeles Public Library has strived to keep pace with the growth of the City of Angels, and we are proud to share this inside look at our amazing history," said Christina Rice, manager of the Library's Photo Collection and one of the exhibit's creators.

The exhibit and other 150th anniversary activities are made possible through generous funding from the [Library Foundation of Los Angeles](#). It is free and open to the public during Central Library's normal hours of operation.

### **About Los Angeles Public Library**

Celebrating 150 years of service, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. A recipient of the nation's highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services—its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than eight million books, state-of-the art technology accessible at [lapl.org](#) and thousands of public programs provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

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