

OC PUBLIC LIBRARIES



100 YEARS OF POSSIBILITIES

1921 - 2021

CELEBRATE THE PAST. INSPIRE THE FUTURE.



2021

ANNUAL REPORT



 Orange County, CA
Public Libraries
Open Doors. Free Access. Community.



@OCPublicLibraries



www.ocpl.org



@OCPubLib



VISION

**Open Doors, Free Access,
Community**

MISSION

**Empower & Enrich
our Communities**

VALUES

- **Empower** people
- **Serve** everyone
- **Provide** freedom of access
- **Engender** love of reading and learning
- **Make** a difference in people's lives



OC Public Libraries celebrates our first 100 years. In honor of our centennial, exciting things will be happening in 2021 as we reflect on our history of the last century. Join us as we celebrate the past and inspire the future!



COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

County of Orange



ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



► LETTER FROM THE COUNTY LIBRARIAN



“

Looking to next year, OCPL will be celebrating 100 years of service in 2021.”

OC Public Libraries had many major accomplishments in 2020 - a year of unprecedented challenges for everyone. As you read through the annual report, you will see that each day OCPL employees created new ways of safely meeting our mission to empower and enrich our communities. OCPL employees responded to the pandemic with ingenuity, creativity, kindness and resilience.

After many months closed, library patrons were able to pick up their holds at the curbside service and later, were able to safely browse inside the library in the metered occupancy areas using Grab & Go. Virtual services helped communities during the stay at home orders, and expanded WiFi provided access to employment, health, public safety, distance learning and community connection information.

In addition, programs were reimaged as virtual events. Our patrons enjoyed Zoom author events, how-to video instruction, Zoom book clubs, reading recommendations, video craft demonstrations, food literacy, storytimes (in 7 languages), and teen events online. Library staff pivoted to assist patrons via email, phone, chat and text. Library employees created thousands of craft kits for parents to pick up from libraries accompanied by video demonstrations on how to complete the craft at home. Our annual reading programs were adapted to online and this year we offered Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter challenges, all virtually. Many of our libraries hosted voting centers and ballot boxes during the election and the library curated a non-partisan voting information and resource guide tailored for the Orange County voter.

Many library patrons don't have a computer at home or access to the internet. Providing free high-speed internet, WiFi, free access to ebooks and instruction on basic computer skills is especially

important as more aspects of our lives move online. The pandemic amplified this need and in response the library created the OC Public Libraries Internet Access Initiative: Bridging the Digital Divide. The first part of the initiative is WiFi on Wheels, mobile WiFi antenna trailers providing internet access on a regularly scheduled basis in underconnected neighborhoods. Library outreach staff accompany the vehicle and safely provide library cards, books in multiple languages and WiFi hotspots that can be checked out for 3 weeks. Additionally, WiFi is being extended beyond library walls onto surrounding library patios, sidewalks and parking lots so patrons can benefit from it during business hours, safely in their cars or physically distanced outside.

Looking to next year, OCPL will be celebrating 100 years of service in 2021. There will be a year-long celebration of virtual events, programs and social media campaigns. In addition, OCPL will begin the Kindergarten Readiness Initiative which will help support children with the skills needed to be successful in school. There will be monthly Grab & Go craft kits and STEAM kits available for pick up. Author events will continue virtually and even more Zoom Storytimes in multiple languages will be available on a regular schedule. Our amazing staff will continue to offer virtual programs and services for our patrons to learn, connect and explore.

We look forward to connecting with our communities virtually, and when safe to do so again, in person. In conclusion, as we begin 2021, OCPL will adapt and continue to empower and enrich our communities, making a positive impact in our patrons' lives, whatever the circumstance and restriction.

Sincerely,

Julie E. Quillman
County Librarian
OC Public Libraries



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Michelle Steel,
Supervisor, 2nd District



Vice Chairman
Andrew Do,
Supervisor, 1st District



Donald P. Wagner,
Supervisor, 3rd District



Doug Chaffee,
Supervisor, 4th District



Lisa Bartlett,
Supervisor, 5th District

2020 Board of Supervisors

County of Orange, California

READ[®]



Orange County, CA
Public Libraries
Open Doors. Free Access. Community.

www.ocpl.org



2020

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD & MEMBER CITIES

WILLIAM PHILLIPS
CHRISTINE MARICK
JOHN STEPHENS
STACY BERRY
PAUL WYATT
KIM CONSTANTINE
STEPHANIE KLOPFENSTEIN
MELISSA FOX
JOSE MEDINA
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HONG ALYCE VAN
LETITIA CLARK
CHAD ZIMMERMAN
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.....Brea
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.....Cypress
.....Dana Point
.....Fountain Valley
.....Garden Grove
.....Irvine
.....La Habra
.....La Palma
.....Laguna Beach
.....Laguna Hills
.....Laguna Niguel
.....Laguna Woods
.....Lake Forest
.....Los Alamitos Rossmoor
.....Rancho Santa Margarita
.....San Clemente
.....San Juan Capistrano
.....Seal Beach
.....Stanton
.....Tustin
.....Villa Park
.....Westminster

2020 HIGHLIGHTS



Lunch at the Library





2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Internet Access Initiative

Bridging the Digital Divide (Wifi on wheels, hotspot lending, WiFi branch extension)

Sharing Recipes + Sharing Stories

BE A PART OF THE
OC PUBLIC LIBRARIES
COMMUNITY COOKBOOK



How can we help?

**OCPL Chat is
now available!**

Ask a question
We're online!



**WHAT'S
STOPPING
YOU?**

EARN A HIGH
SCHOOL DIPLOMA.



**VIRTUAL PROGRAMS
AVAILABLE 24/7**



OCPL.ORG/VIRTUALPROGRAMS



Author events

(physical + virtual)



OC Public Libraries' member cities cover **556** square miles.

2019-2020 STATS



Attendance at
programs

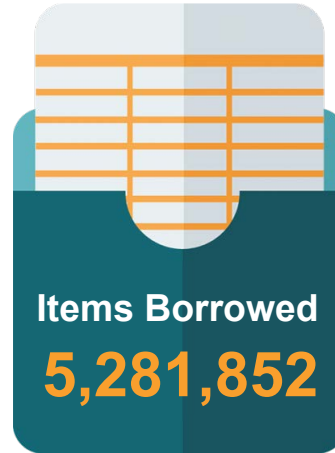
106,400

Includes physical and
virtual storytimes, crafts,
cooking, teen gaming,
and readers' advisory.



New and renewed
library cards

53,527



Items Borrowed

5,281,852

Internet and WiFi
access



890,000

hours of internet
usage



175,000

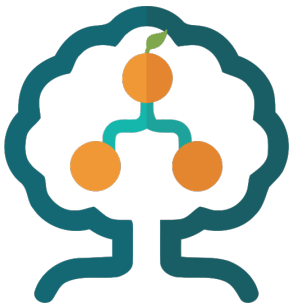
Songs
streamed



1.4 million

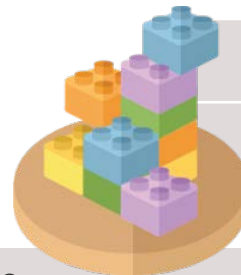
Digital check-outs

[hoopla](#) [OverDrive](#) [zinio](#)



Genealogical
searches

40,460



837

Number of storytimes
(physical + virtual)



Chat reference
questions answered

9,789

Storytime attendance
(physical + virtual)

27,512



Reference
questions
answered:

457,371



27,892

Voters using
OCPL voting
centers



PROGRAMMING

At•A•Glance

DIGITAL

BOOKMOBILE

powered by **OverDrive**

Borrow eBooks & MORE





PLANS ? ?

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU GUYS WANT!

LET ME SAY something has HAPPENED

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO

IT'S THE SAME PERSON HERE

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO

LATER THAT SAME DAY

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO

Back-to-School Events

2020 Programming at a Glance

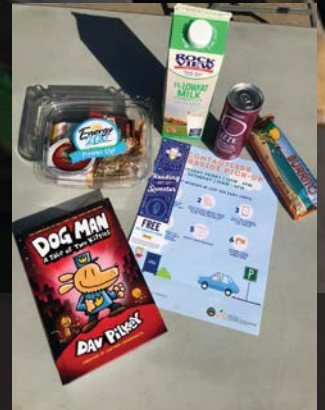


With school looking different this year, OC Public Libraries' literacy program, OC READ / Families for Literacy (OC READ), launched a series of Back-to-School events to support distance learning.

Lunch @ the Library



Book Giveaways



In partnership with **Tustin Unified School District**, OCPL gave out books to families picking up lunch at school. This initiative is part of the **Lunch @ The Library** program funded by the **California State Library**.

Isabel Quintero (Virtual Reading & Author Talk)

2020 Programming at a Glance




Award-winning author, **Isabel Quintero**, read her book *My Papi Has a Motorcycle* on Zoom. This program was made possible by **REFORMA**, **OC READ**, and the **Friends of the La Habra Library**.

Sarah Hernandez (Day of the Dead Virtual Program)

2020 Programming at a Glance




OC READ presented a Day of the Dead virtual program with author, **Sarah Hernandez**, who read from her book *Coco: A Family Mystery*. Participants received a copy of the book and sugar skulls to decorate at home courtesy of the OCPL Foundation.



2020 Programming at a Glance

Summer Reading Program



Summer reading programs began in the 1890s as a way to encourage school children to read during their summer vacation. Today, it is open to all kids, teenagers and adults who want to use the library and develop the habit of reading. Participants in the **2020 Summer Reading Challenge** were able to collect digital badges, earn points for every book read, and complete a diverse set of library challenges at home.



OC Public Libraries

Internet Access Initiative: Bridging the Digital Divide



The **WiFi on Wheels** program brought free broadband connectivity to neighborhoods most in need. WiFi on Wheels is part of the County's *Internet Access Initiative: Bridging the Digital Divide*, a larger project which also includes WiFi extensions at County libraries and WiFi hotspots available for checkout.



Virtual Storytimes

2020 Programming at a Glance

Virtual storytimes are a valuable way to connect with our local communities regardless of crisis. As we expanded our digital collections and explored virtual services in 2020, our libraries offered storytime services from afar to support early literacy.



Cultural Programs and Celebrations

2020 Programming at a Glance

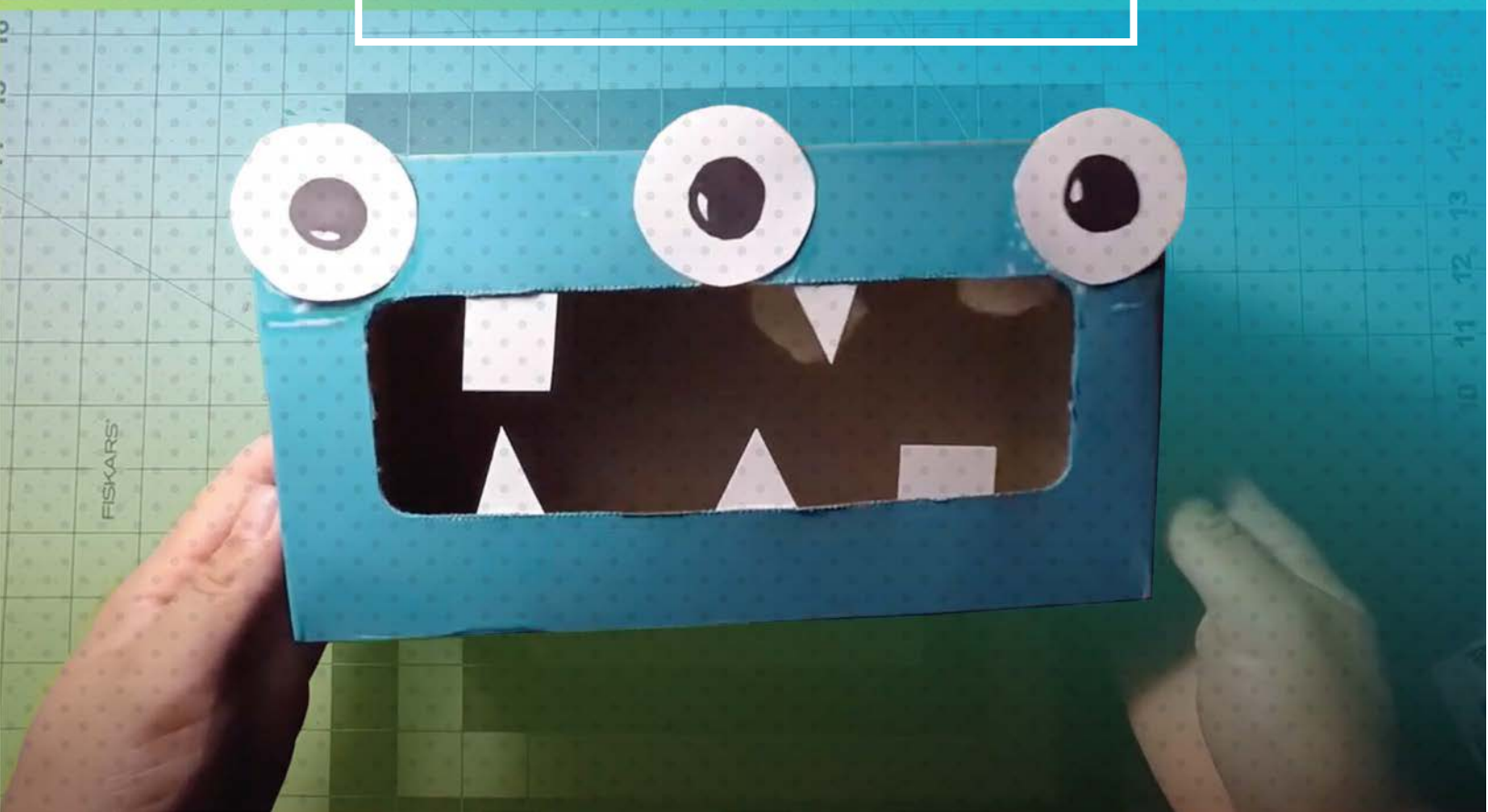
Tết Celebration held at Irvine Heritage Park Library in January.



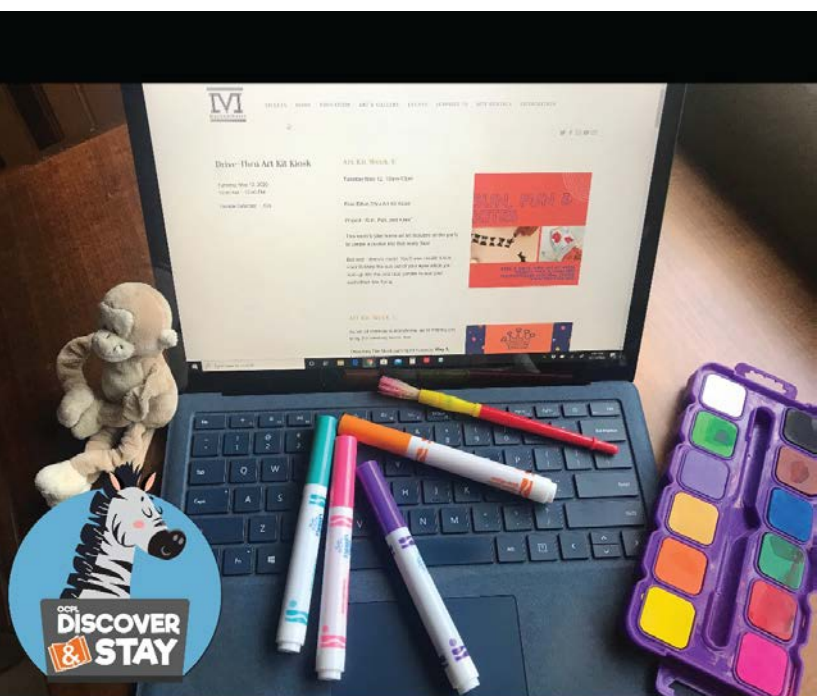
OCPL's **World Languages Committee** aids in increasing the collection of our non-English language material across our diverse library system. In addition, the committee facilitates many celebrations and cultural programs throughout the County.

◀◀◀ **Bilingual Storytimes**
during early months of 2020

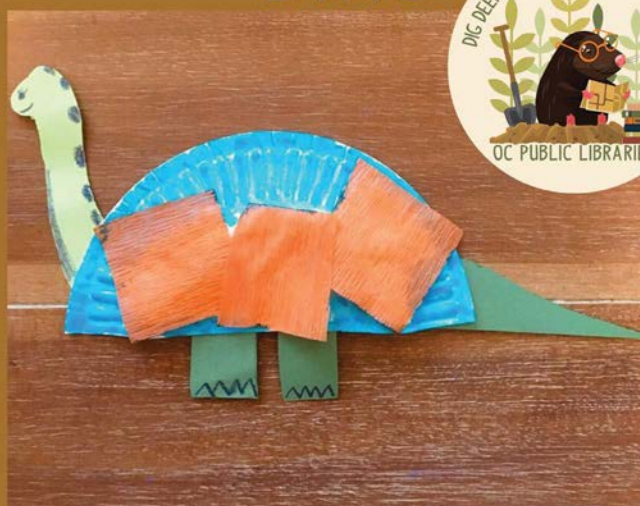
DIY Craft Videos



Crafts inspire creative expression, increase fine motor skills, and strengthen shape, line, and color knowledge. OCPL provided videos on a variety of craft projects to do at home, encouraging imagination and creativity while staying safe.



PAPER PLATE DINO



Cooking Demos

Empowering
our community
with accessible
food and culinary
education



Sharing Recipes + Sharing Stories

BE A PART OF THE OC PUBLIC LIBRARIES COMMUNITY COOKBOOK



OCPL launched the **Community Cookbook Project** to connect with our community. We are constantly seeking new ways to interact with the community; to share memories, stories, and recipes with one another.

Orange County is rich in diversity, and that's evident in the community cookbook's cherished recipes that are fusions of international cuisine. While these dishes vary in taste, they all share their comfort, appreciation of food, and togetherness.



2021 GOALS

OCPL is responsive to the rapidly changing global and social environments during the pandemic and is empowering and enriching our communities by adapting services to safely meet their needs.



Provide equitable services responsive to the cultures, languages, abilities and other diversities through library resources, community-conscious services and multilingual programming.

Create digital content and virtual programming responsive to community needs during the pandemic.

Provide modified spaces to **connect, learn, relax** and **grow** for our community members according to pandemic safety practices.



2021 GOALS

Harness **community outreach** and **engagement** through creativity and innovation by providing additional avenues to connect with our communities, such as **online chat, email** and **text**.

Provide **educational** and **recreational** resources, support **distance learning**, and increase access to the internet through **WiFi expansion** in libraries.

Reach and engage underserved communities by offering voting resources, voting centers, access to the internet through mobile vehicles and WiFi hotspots and literacy services.

► **ALISO VIEJO**

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► **BREA**

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► **COSTA MESA/DONALD DUNGAN**

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► **GARDEN GROVE/MAIN**

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► **GARDEN GROVE/TIBOR RUBIN**

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► **LAGUNA BEACH**

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