

Annual Report



PALO ALTO CITY LIBRARY

FY 2024-2025



Building Connections & Supporting Communities

Words on Wheels

The Library launched its [Words on Wheels](#) service to make materials accessible to Palo Alto residents who are unable to visit their local branch in person. The home delivery service connects participants with volunteers who deliver library materials to them.

Health & Wellness

The Library supported community wellness with classes on Chair Yoga, [Meditation](#) and [Tai Chi](#), offering spaces for relaxation, movement, and mindfulness.

Parks Passes

The Library expanded access to [local parks](#) with the addition of 75 Foothill Nature Preserve passes and 50 Santa Clara County Parks passes.



Outreach

The Library attended various events throughout the city, promoting services and events, issuing library cards and distributing prizes. Popular events included 3rd Thursdays at Cal Ave., 2nd Saturdays at Gamble Gardens, National Night Out, City Open House, Palo Alto Earth Day Festival, eHelp at senior living facilities, San Francisco Giants Library Night, resource fair at Opportunity Center and various school visits.

54
OUTREACH
EVENTS

6,139
OUTREACH
ATTENDEES



Love Your Libraries

This initiative was launched to recognize our amazing branches around town. Both Mitchell Park and Rinconada Libraries celebrated 10-year milestones during this time, and a large celebration with various activities, speeches from City officials and a visit from Pepper the Robot, were held in November and February for each branch. Special edition library cards commemorating each event were issued, and hundreds came out to show love for the popular spaces that bring the community together.



Children's Library Upgrades

Children's Library underwent several upgrades, which included the installation of an Automated Materials Handling (AMH) system, new and updated paint and carpeting throughout the building, and attractive new upholstery of public furniture.



Providing Opportunities to Learn Anything



All-Ages

Summer Reading for a Cause

This summer's theme, Everyone's a Reader, highlighted the idea that all reading counts no matter one's age, proficiency level or preferred format. We challenged our community to log at least 2,000 hours of reading/listening so that we could donate \$2,500 to Downtown Streets Team, through the Friends of the Palo Alto City Library. We also hosted a Hygiene Kit Drive and collected 28 boxes of hygiene supplies for the organization.



27,413
HOURS READ

200
EVENTS

7,912
ATTENDEES

1,094
PROGRAMS

43,105
ATTENDEES



Celebrating Cultures

Annual events for Lunar New Year, Nowruz and Diwali drew in hundreds of attendees, who saw various dance and musical performances and enjoyed craft activities. The Library also recognized various heritage months and other cultural observations throughout the year with special storytimes, crafts, book and movie programs.



Kids

Family programs such as [Hora de cuentos](#) and Global Voices: A Celebration of Languages provided children and caregivers an opportunity to enjoy events in another language. The weekly Spanish storytime draws over 50 attendees to College Terrace Library.



Teens

The [Teen Library Advisory Board \(TLAB\)](#) planned exciting events for their peers, including movie nights, craft events and Palo Alto Connect, a resource fair for teens to connect with other local teen-led groups. Allcove pop-up events at the library provided welcoming spaces for teens to enjoy fun crafts.



Adults

[Learn English](#) programs and workshops on citizenship and rights allowed individuals to build their language skills, stay informed and connect with community members.

[Community Threads](#), a grant-funded program that launched in 2023, provided workshops for teens and adults to learn basic sewing or create special projects.

Technology & Innovation

Technology Programs

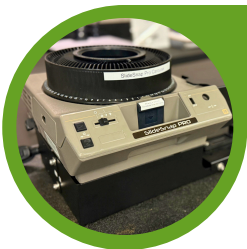
Our **AI Storytelling** series invited participants to explore AI tools to write movie scripts, generate storyboard images, and create voice-overs. Attracting 66 attendees, these sessions promoted digital literacy and engagement with emerging technologies.

Various **coding, robotics, and 3D printing** courses led by teen volunteers engaged over 400 attendees in hands-on, creative problem-solving through technology.

Library App Launch

The new **library app** was launched in May 2025, providing customers a convenient tool for storing their library cards, searching the catalog, and managing their accounts on their smartphone or tablet.

1,058
DOWNLOADS
WITHIN 6 MONTHS



The **Vintage Media Lab** preserved cherished memories by digitizing analog formats like VHS tapes, photos, and cassettes.

82
SESSIONS

223
USERS



We introduced a **4K DVD collection**, positioning our library among the few Bay Area institutions offering this premium format to patrons.

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS


748,967
VISITORS


1,047,015
WEBSITE VISITS


286,545
COLLECTION


1,379,286
CIRCULATION



Nurturing
**INNOVATION
DISCOVERY
DELIGHT**

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