



San José Public Library
Foundation

Mid-Year Report

**20
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Thank You From Our CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we pass the midpoint of this remarkable year, I am filled with gratitude and admiration for the incredible community that has come together to support the San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF). Your generosity and commitment have delivered transformative experiences across all 25 branches of the San José Public Library (SJPL).

This mid-year report is not just an update but a heartfelt thank you to each of you. Through your donations, we've seen lives enriched and futures brightened.

The Resilience Corps Learning Pathways program is a shining example of this impact. Resilience Corps Associates (RCAs) are providing invaluable after-school and STEAM learning opportunities to children throughout San José, fostering creativity and innovation. While our story in this report spotlights the incredible work going on at your Library, the RCAs placed at partner agencies mean more children across the city are now in afterschool programs.

You'll also read a touching story from Rosie about why she is a member of our Epilogue Society, and what she loves about libraries. I am sure that you will be able to relate and be reminded why you love the Library.

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming events designed to bring our community together and raise crucial funds for SJPL. Join us for our Signature Author Event on September 21st, featuring the renowned Chef Martin Yan, and our 2nd Annual Kristi Yamaguchi Family Literacy Festival on September 7th.

We encourage you to explore this report to see the extraordinary work that your contributions have enabled. Together, we are building a brighter future for San José, one story at a time.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Dr. Dawn Coppin
CEO, San José Public Library Foundation

P.S. You may notice several QR codes in this report. Point your smartphone camera at the codes to find ways to get involved with SJPLF this year.



Strengthening Our Advocacy

Our advocacy muscle is growing. In recent months, our community of Library Advocates helped to successfully maintain Sunday hours at the Library, ensuring that our community continues to have access to essential resources every day of the week, a significant concern going into this budget season because of a substantial deficit that resulted in painful cuts to city services, including our libraries.

However, thanks to the tireless work of library advocates, the San José Public Library is now late-fines free! With the adoption of the 2024-2025 City Budget, library patrons no longer need to be concerned with losing access to library resources because of fines for overdue materials. Thank you to our advocates, who attended many meetings, submitted public comments, and successfully urged local leaders to support this important measure to improve library accessibility.

We are also excited to announce an additional monthly newsletter for Library Advocates. Scan the QR code to sign up and hear from Chris S., our Foundation & Government Relations, Senior Manager about exclusive updates, resources, and advocacy opportunities to help us continue our mission. In doing this important work, we safeguard one of the few places where ideas flow freely, where all can access the information and resources necessary to learn, grow, and engage fully in civic life. Thank you for being an essential part of this movement.



The San José Public Library is now late-fines free



Scan the QR code to join our additional monthly newsletter for Library Advocates



Chris S., Foundation & Government Relations, Senior Manager

San José Public Library
Foundation presents

Signature Author Event

September 21st, 2024

11 AM to 1 PM

San José City Hall Rotunda

Join us at our upcoming Signature Author Event featuring celebrity Chef Martin Yan. Together, we aim to raise crucial funds and awareness for SJPL.

Guests will enjoy a lunch featuring dishes from Chef Martin Yan's award-winning menu, complete with wine-pairings, while Chef Yan performs an entertaining cooking demonstration while sharing the inspiration behind his 30+ cookbooks.

Ticket Pricing

Standard

\$100 Single ticket

\$1,500 Reserved Preferred Seating Table (10 seats)

Includes autographed *Best of Yan Can Cook* recipe book.



VIP Pack

VIP Pack

\$150 Single ticket

\$2,000 Reserved Preferred Seating Table (10 seats)

Includes autographed *Best of Yan Can Cook* recipe book plus chef grade knife, knife sharpening tool, and deluxe chopsticks set from exclusive Yan kitchen collection.

Scan the QR
code or visit
sjplf.org/events
to secure your
tickets starting
July 15th



One Example Of Your Impact This Year

The San José Public Library (SJPL) offers incredible resources and opportunities for the community throughout its 25 branches. A plethora of cultures, languages, and communities can be found at each library location. The San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) works to support and amplify the programs offered throughout SJPL.

Over the last year, the Foundation's Digital Marketing & Communications Interns who helped write this story have been following the impact of Resilience Corp Learning Pathways, one of the key programs supported by SJPLF. This program employs dozens of Resilience Corps Associates, or RCAs, who are young adults from San José who gain professional experience and develop meaningful career pathways through the program. Some of the RCAs help the children of our local communities by collaborating with the Coding5k program, a citywide initiative led by SJPL that creates accessible avenues of learning in STEAM for students K-8th. SJPLF works to support and amplify the programs offered throughout the Library, including after-school STEAM experiences delivered in collaboration with various community-based organizations.

These Resilience Corps Associates placed with the Coding5k program are not only focused on offering coding workshops, but also workshops focused on creativity with iPad. RCAs have gone through numerous trainings and workshops to be better equipped for teaching classes covering topics ranging from coding with Swift to stop motion animation using Keynote app and more. RCAs craft uniquely planned lessons each week. Resilience Corps and Coding5k collectively highlight the unparalleled value of programs that not only serve their community but also emphasize the power of partnerships of everyone who helps fund and implement these programs.

Throughout the year-round program, Resilience Corps Associates are supported through monthly Professional Development Workshops which cover topics like financial literacy, and personal branding. Additionally, Resilience Corps Associates placed at the library and working in Coding5k participated in workshops focused on learning and teaching with Apple technology.

With support from Apple's Community Education Initiative, sessions focused on topics like storytelling – addressing the importance of storytelling and elements of effective messaging – creating professional portfolios, and more. During the Storytelling workshop, the RCAs were asked to identify their personal values and develop a solution for a challenge their community faces as well as to inspire new lesson plans for the classes that the RCAs teach. Using iMovie, the RCAs shared a short video they created during the Storytelling Workshop. **Providing focused and action-oriented workshops within the Resilience Corps Program guides young professionals when choosing their career path and fosters a purposeful and growing community.**



These types of intentionally crafted workshops not only equip the RCAs with the tools to teach and positively impact the surrounding communities but also gives them a chance to reflect on their personal goals and professional development as they prepare for their future. **The RCAs are proactively adapting their lessons**



Kayla C. & Julia L., Digital Marketing & Communications Interns



to what they believe the children and their families will benefit from the most. This is done at each location through feedback and long-term relationships that they have cultivated with the families and library staff. Shalom, one of the RCAs at the Joyce Ellington Branch Library, shared that the workshop, "Gave us space to express what we stand for," improving how they approach problem-solving and serving the community with a clear mission.

The RCAs have found that they do have a consistent group of families that come back every week. Following the story-telling workshop, Shalom was able to guide 5-year-old Costantino in a "Beginning Animation" class by teaching him various skills in the art of making an animation on an iPad provided by the Library. SJPL has devices available to loan students and program participants if the program requires a tech device.

Costantino's father is excited to bring his son to more classes that allow his son to learn about animation and other skill sets that can also be done on iPad.

There have been coding classes to teach Swift coding language, and even creative holiday themed activities using iPad! **Through the experiences provided by the Resilience Corps Program, many RCAs have been able to say they can more comfortably and confidently teach students and manage a classroom.**

Adelle, another RCA, said the children "had fun and got to show their creativity". She hopes to continue improving her public speaking and communication skills inside and outside the classroom throughout the program. A parent, who is a software engineer, enthusiastically mentioned how these classes and programs help his son "get started" because he didn't know where to begin himself. He loves that it's free at the Library, eliminating the burden of the otherwise expensive cost of equipment and programs to do these classes.

The RCAs are becoming exceedingly competent while gaining confidence in themselves during the program. **The impact of just a single workshop has the power to create foundational and transformative change in the city of San José starting with the young adults in the Resilience Corps and Coding5k Programs teaching their students one class at a time.**

If you want your children to attend upcoming Coding5k classes, visit sjpl.org/coding5k to see their upcoming schedule at your local branch and for more details. Registration is required for some programs.



#CaliforniansForAll
Youth Jobs Corps

The Resilience Corps Learning Pathway is funded by #CaliforniansForAll. Resilience Corps Associates are placed at a variety of partner organizations throughout San José in addition to SJPL. Those interested in applying to become Resilience Corps Associates are not guaranteed placement in any specific organization.



Visit
sjplf.org/donate
to support the
Resilience Corps



We Have A New Website!

Your support helped us launch a brand new website with an improved user experience. Our team has been working hard all year long to bring this vision to life.

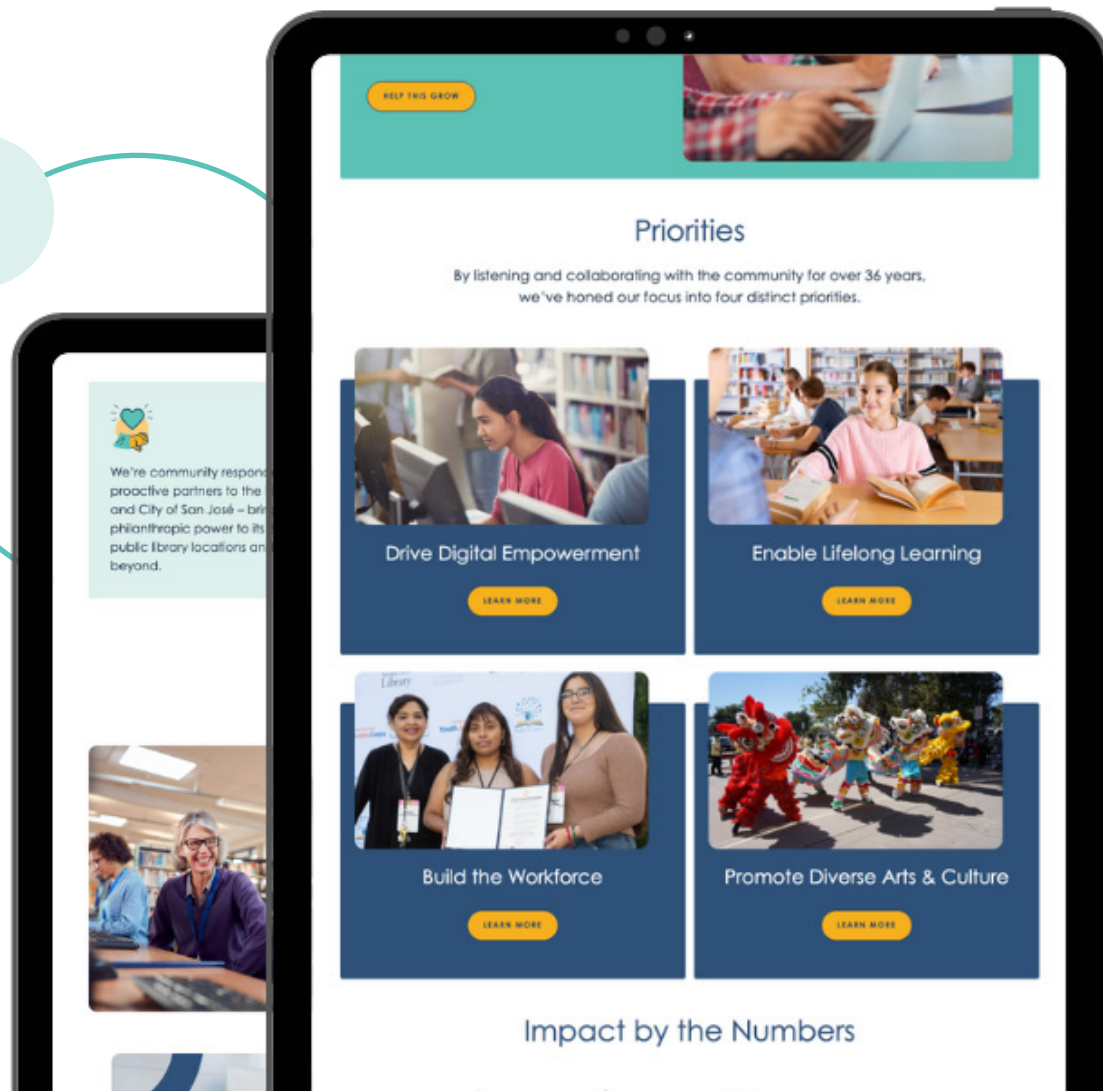
Go to sjplf.org to explore the fresh design and discover all the new ways to interact with us.



Scan the QR code and explore our new website



By listening and collaborating with the community for over 36 years, we've honed our focus into four distinct priorities.



My Library Story

Born in Zacatecas, Mexico in 1927, my father Hijinio Reynoso, Sr was born with a passion for learning. Unfortunately, he was told by my grandmother that learning and any form of education was a thing of the devil... so... he was not allowed to go to school. But that didn't stop him. He took it upon himself to acquire items like eggs from the neighbors' chickens and other knickknacks he could sell so he could get the money to purchase school materials. He proudly walked into the first day of school only to have his mother storm in and pull him out after only one hour. That was the extent of my father's formal education.

It wasn't until he was 25 years old that someone shared with him that you could travel the world through books. Up until that point, he was illiterate. His passion for learning was reignited...so... he taught himself to read and write.

My father's primary occupation was as a farm laborer picking oranges. After a long exhausting day of manual labor, his co-workers would return home to relax and watch T.V. My father rushed home to read. I don't ever remember coming home and not seeing a book in my father's hand or near him.

Growing up my father would always ask me "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I'm sure it's a common question all parents ask their children. In my case, no matter what I said, he would always respond "well you know you have to go to school for that and you have to study lots of books". As a young child, I wanted to be a ballerina and a firefighter.

Books were as common in our house as food in a refrigerator. When we ran out, we would go to the library to check out more to "fill our pantry". I learned to read when I was 3 years old and, from that age, it was engrained in me that books are to be respected, honored and cherished. We were not allowed to write in books, mark pages with "dog ears" or lay books on the floor.

Now, imagine my shock when I went off to college and I was told to mark the "important points" in my textbook by highlighting the section or underlining it with a pencil (and maybe even a pen). That was culture shock!

Education, learning, and books were always important to my father. When I lost him at the ripe age of 94 in 2021, I wanted to honor his memory and his influence on me and his influence on others by doing more than just a yearly donation to the San José Library Foundation. I wanted to find a way to honor him and the public libraries that have always been at the center of my life as a child, a young adult and now with my own children. That is why my husband and I decided to include the San José Public Library Foundation in our Family Trust.

By adding us to her Family Trust, Rosie joined SJPLF's Epilogue Society, what we call our community of legacy givers. We are so grateful for Rosie's passionate support and openness to share her library story.

Please join Rosie in sharing your library story with us at development@sjplf.org.



Visit sjplf.org/legacy-giving to learn more about our Epilogue Society & Legacy Giving

2nd Annual

Kristi Yamaguchi's Family Literacy Festival

September 7th, 2024
9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Children's Discovery
Museum of San José



Families will enjoy all the Museum has to offer, along with celebrity and author story readings, hands-on activities and art projects, and family friendly entertainment. All included with your special event day admission ticket!

A collaboration between Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream, Children's Discovery Museum, and the San José Public Library Foundation, to promote the importance of reading.



Scan the QR code or visit sjplf.org/events to secure your tickets today!



Estate Planning for Everyone

October 21st, 2024
3 PM to 4 PM

Bascom Branch
Library

Learn how to protect your loved ones, support your passion, minimize tax burdens, and preserve family harmony. This FREE estate planning workshop is perfect for individuals and families seeking financial security. Whether you're starting your estate planning journey or looking to refine your existing plan, our expert speakers will provide invaluable insights and guide you through the essentials of wills and trusts. Secure your spot and gain peace of mind for your financial future.

Guest Speakers



Todd Langton
Financial Advisor
NY Life Securities LLC



Marisa Martinson
Estate Planning Attorney
Berliner Cohen



Pat Wolfe
SJPLF Board Member &
Epilogue Society Member



Scan the QR code or visit sjplf.org/events to secure your spot



Title Sponsor



Presenting Sponsors \$15K



SJPLF is truly grateful for the support from our event sponsors and individual donors. If you would like to make a donation to support literacy, please visit sjplf.org/donate and select "Other" under "Where to Give" and indicate Kristi Yamaguchi's Family Literacy Festival in the space provided.



San José Public Library
Foundation



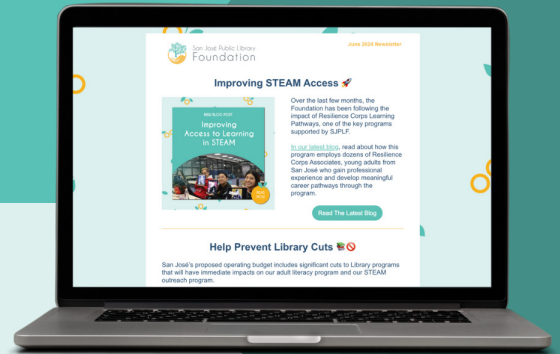
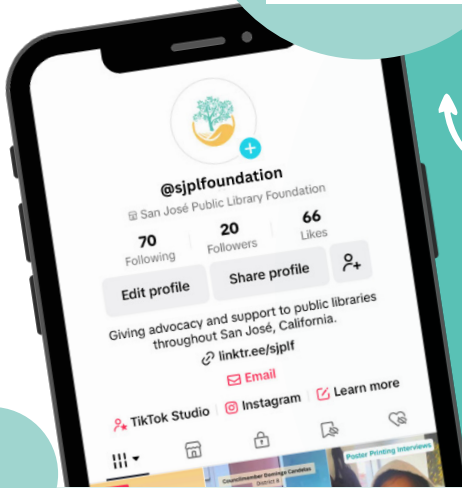
Stay Connected With Us

Exciting News! SJPLF is now on TikTok!

Scan the QR code to follow us
@sjplfoundation and watch fun videos
showcasing the great work at the Library.



*Thank you for your
support. You are
changing lives in
San José at your
local Library.
- The SJPLF Team*



Join Our Monthly Newsletter!

Scan the QR code to sign up for our email newsletter.
Don't miss out on behind-the-scenes peeks, community stories,
program highlights, and ways you can help support the Library.

