San Mateo County Libraries

Anne-Marie Despain
Director of Library Services
Established in 1912
- Atherton
- Belmont
- Brisbane
- East Palo Alto
- Foster City
- Half Moon Bay
- Millbrae
- North Fair Oaks
- Pacifica Sanchez
- Pacifica Sharp Park
- Portola Valley
- San Carlos
- Woodside
A total of 33 libraries in the San Mateo County

- Daly City (4)
- South San Francisco (2)
- San Bruno
- Burlingame (2)
- San Mateo (3)
- Redwood City (3)
- Menlo Park (2)
- Community Colleges (3)
Demographics

283,000 people live in our service area

74% of our service population have a library card

At home, 16% of our community speak Spanish, 8% speak Chinese and another 15% speak another language other than English

Households are 78% suburban, 15% urban and 7% rural

25% are enrolled in school, 45% of whom are in grades k-8
Mission
San Mateo County Libraries strengthen our community by creating an inclusive sense of place and environment for learning

Vision
San Mateo County Libraries ignite growth through transformative experiences

Strategic Plan
Our Goals

We cultivate an active presence and create spaces that support discovery, enrich lives and uplift the community.

We are leaders in establishing a foundation of early literacy and supporting exploration and growth at every stage of life.

We understand needs and promote meaningful library services as solutions.
Open for Exploration
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**Our Goals**

**Revenues and Expenditures**

- **Taxes (Excl. ERAF)**: 84%
- **Excess ERAF**: 3%
- **Other**: 13%

- **Salaries and Benefits**: 49%
- **Services and Supplies**: 41%
- **Other Charges**: 8%
- **Fixed Assets**: 2%
Library Champions

A total of 146 permanent staff, 100+ extra-help employees, and 200 summer interns provide library services.

400+ volunteers, 10 Friends of the Library groups, and 2 Foundations support our libraries and programs.
Year in Numbers

1st
In California Star Library Ratings
2M
Items Circulated

3rd
In National Star Library Ratings
1.67M
Website Visitors

96%
Favorability Rating
4.1M
Wireless Sessions

2,348
Programs and Events
935,621
In-Person Visits
32,356
Meals Served
Overview

Accomplishments

Recommended Budget

Expanded Hours
“An excellent and valued community resource that has proved of even greater value during these strained times for me and my family. Thank you.” —Library Patron
"The library has been the most important part of my kids' education."
—Library Patron
Inspiring Summers
"The session was inspiring, heartwarming and the stories filled me with pride of my immigrant and farmworker family who came here in the 80s from Cuernavaca, Mexico."
—Attendee of Equity Through Art
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Innovative Services
Technology Access
Inspiring Spaces
"The libraries are light and bright and wonderful spaces for adults and children!"
—Library Patron
Priorities and projects

- Intentional Outreach
- Increase Digital Equity
- Sustainable Practices
- Apply Equity Lens
- Build Literacy Skills
Priorities and projects

- New Makerspaces
- Enhance Collections
- Mental Health Supports
- Lending Outposts
- New Bookmobile
Looking forward
Thank you!

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