

## Altruism.

Altruism is an old-fashioned word to describe a benevolent and selfless way of living that enhances society as a whole. In more modern times it has often been replaced with the phrase “do the right thing”, but no matter how you say it the need for altruism is greater than ever before. As society faces increasingly complex challenges more and more frequently, altruism – the practice of acting in the best interest of others, the environment, and society – plays a key factor in the maintenance of libraries.

Frequently, the term “altruist” is used only for those persons who donate massive amounts of money; but countless people have earned the descriptor via their selfless generosity. You, yes you, are an altruist. We know this because a large part of the Foundation’s most staunch and steady support comes from people who rarely set foot inside one of the Library’s 28 locations or use its online resources. They simply understand that the Library is valuable and worthy of their philanthropic investment. They understand that as an institution in our society, the free public library gives all people equal access to the resources, programs and materials with which they can improve their lot in life. According to a 2013 poll by the Pew Research Foundation, 90% of respondents would be negatively impacted if their local library closed.

Thanks to you, an altruist, and the trust that you’ve placed in the Foundation’s capacity to carefully steward your philanthropy so that it impacts children’s literacy programs at the Library, we face a future in which our community libraries are open for everyone.

Consider connecting with the Sacramento Public Library Foundation on Facebook and subscribing to our “e-newsletter” to ensure that you receive all of our news and information in a way that saves time, money and trees!

We pledge that our items posted and shared are of interest and impact to people who love the Sacramento Public Library and to our mission to enhance the Library’s ability to serve the community by raising private funds.

If you’d like to join our email list or simply seek additional information, contact ytorrecillas@saclibrary.org. As always, thank you for your unwavering support and we look forward to hearing from you in 2015!

al·tru·ism  
1: unselfish regard for or devotion to the welfare of others  
2: behavior by an animal that is not beneficial to or may be harmful to itself but that benefits others of its species

· **Mission:** To enhance the Library’s ability to serve the community by raising private funds.

· **Vision:** The Foundation will increase endowments and total revenues to fund programs that promote children’s literacy.

· **Our Goals:** Increase total annual revenues with an emphasis on funding children’s literacy programs without sacrificing traditional program funding. Develop approaches to increase funding for Foundation operations independent of funds raised for the library. Enhance the capacities of leadership particularly in the area of fundraising.

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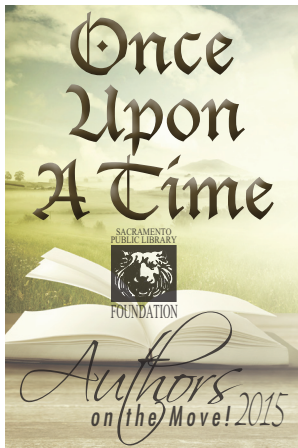
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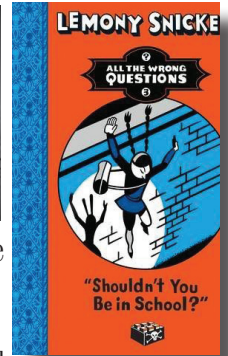
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# Authors on the Move 2015 Once Upon A Time!

## Tickets & Tables on Sale Now! .....



Experience a truly unique and decidedly upscale evening at the Library Foundation's 13th annual gala, *Authors on the Move*, Sacramento's premier literary event. Attendees will be treated to witty entertainment, fine dining from chef Jason Poole, and engaging table conversations with guest authors, as they support the Library's Summer Reading Program.



This year's keynote speaker Daniel Handler (aka Lemony Snicket) will regale the crowd with the inimitable humor and style that has made his books, including the wildly successful *Series of Unfortunate Events*, a must-read for countless young readers and their parents. Handler, who has stated that, "all I have ever wanted was to be in the company of literature," will speak about his latest book *All the Wrong Questions: Shouldn't You Be in School*.

Handler's books frequently hinge upon the premise of placing young people in peril, a theme not unlike the reason for the fundraiser which, through the Library's Summer Reading Program, helps many youngsters avoid a most perilous fate – illiteracy. *Authors on the Move* attendees make it possible for more than 20,000 schoolchildren to participate in our community's most accessible summer reading program.

Individual and corporate event sponsors are making all the difference this year! A big thank you to Anthem Blue Cross, Lawrence Properties, M.E. Shay & Co., Union Bank and Wells Fargo as well as Capital Public Radio who is returning as our media sponsor, and the Avid Reader who is, once again, our book sponsor!

One-time unique author experiences will once again be auctioned during the evening with something appealing for everyone. Our live auction recognizes that our supporters value having the opportunity to interface with authors in new and fun ways.

*Authors on the Move* is being held on March 14, 2015, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento, 1209 L St, Sacramento, California. For ticket purchases and sponsorship details and additional information, visit our website at <http://saclibraryfoundation.org/authors-on-the-move/>

## Meet our Board of Directors .....

The new year has begun with the confirmation of Ahamadou Bocar as Treasurer of the Foundation's Board of Directors. He first began volunteering for the Foundation's annual audit committee in 2012, having been invited to participate by board member Jeanne Peterson, who saw in him the skills and dedication needed for the role. Now, three years later, he has graciously said "yes" again and accepted our invitation to be our next Treasurer.



Ahamadou, an audit partner at CohnReznick, received his education in both America and Europe and holds degrees from San Jose State University and from the University of Nancy in France. He has more than 18 years of audit, finance, tax, and accounting experience with public accounting and investment banking organizations. A native of Mali, West Africa, he has traveled the world through his educational and career engagements. Ahamadou will bring this global perspective, along with his fluency in five languages, to inform and enhance the Foundation's efforts to serve the community and promote children's literacy. Ahamadou originally came to California to learn English, his fifth language. Now, his leadership and volunteerism will impact literacy in the capital region of the state via the Foundation's support of the Library.

"I'm very interested in literacy and improving early child education and learning..."

"I'm very interested in literacy and improving early child education and learning and I believe the library plays a key role in achieving these goals. I'm very fortunate to have benefited from that from my early childhood in Timbuktu and through my journey to Europe, Africa and the United States."

Join us as we welcome Ahamadou to the Board and to this important leadership role within our organization!

# Walk4Literacy Announces Grant Opportunity for Literacy Non-Profits .....

The *Walk4Literacy* coalition has opened its new grant process for children's literacy organizations in Sacramento. The grant funding, a total of \$10,000, reflects 100% of fees from each individual, family, and group registration for last



October's *Walk4Literacy* event. The grant review process will be managed by Kim Tucker, Executive Director of 3fold Communications, who has generously volunteered her expertise and leadership in the role. Tucker will be joined by a review committee that reflects the diversity characterized by the *Walk4Literacy*'s participants and that of Sacramento itself. *Walk4Literacy* was produced by three organizations, 916Ink, Teach For America, and the Sacramento Public Library Foundation, whose leaders believe the literacy crisis in Sacramento will be solved by conscious collaboration toward achieving grade-level reading.

The general funding categories in the grant process include project-specific grants for organizations that provide support for literacy education programs for children and youth in Sacramento County. In order to be eligible to receive funding, projects must demonstrate ways in which collaborations are manifested and/or encouraged. Organizations of every size are invited to apply.

"We encourage any organization to apply that is doing a good job of providing literacy education programs in Sacramento County for children and youth, ages birth through 18," says Mary Ellen Shay, president of the Sacramento Library Foundation Board of Directors. "Especially programs and projects that include collaborative partners to increase capacity."

Applications are available at [www.walk4literacy.org](http://www.walk4literacy.org) and will be accepted through March 15, 2015. Grant recipients will be notified by May 1, 2015.

To support children's literacy in Sacramento, "like" the *Walk 4 Literacy* Facebook page and make plans to attend the second *Walk4Literacy* on Saturday, October 17, 2015.

## Summer Reading Highlight .....

In the Summer of 2013, LifeSTEPS, the Library and the Library Foundation partnered to bring the Library into its out of school time summer program. Through an intentional effort to develop a partnership that would enhance the affordable housing community's access to the Library, the three partners found a winning combination. By combining the reach and depth, 66% of the children participating finished the program, which was 25% higher than the Library's finishing rate of 40%.



This last summer, LifeSTEPS expanded that project and had 791 kids participate statewide. "We are very pleased with the results from our P.A.W.S. for Reading Program we initiated statewide this summer. In each of our regions we established relationships with local public libraries to mitigate summer learning loss," reported Beth Southorn, Executive Director of LifeSTEPS and Library Foundation Board Member. "And none of this would have been possible were it not for the pilot project we initiated with the Sacramento Public Library Foundation in 2013."

Congratulations LifeSTEPS for making it happen! Keep up the good work in 2015!

## Thank You!

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