



## 2013



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*Public Library*

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***“The Library gives you  
the freedom to  
connect, explore  
create — whatever  
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Last year over 11.7 million patrons visited our 85 libraries and 7.4 million used our virtual library. The library gives you the freedom to connect, explore create — whatever your needs or dreams. That is the statement of purpose from our new strategic plan. Our strategic plan focuses on eight key initiatives for the 21st century.

We believe that the library is a center for learning and we are calling that concept 360 Degree Literacy. We are transforming the Library as Place. During the last year, we opened new libraries in East Rancho Dominguez (the first LEED Platinum county building) and Diamond Bar. We renovated La Puente Library and have over 16 other construction or renovation projects underway.

We believe that the library is a center for community engagement. The Library Foundation donated \$100,000 to help promote our Teen Healthy Living Challenge.

This year the Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission honored the library with the Top Ten Award for Parents as Partners: Growing Stronger Families, a program we implemented through partnerships with Mental Health, Parks and Recreation, and Probation.

Our virtual presence continues to grow. We added Hoopla, which allows library card holders to stream movies, music and audio books, adding to our list of downloadable and streaming content. We also promote Freegal for music, OneClick Digital for audio books, OverDrive for eBooks and audio books, as well as offering on-line classes. All services are free.

The library is a place for the community to express its creativity. The library sponsored hundreds of cultural programs, including poetry writing; film production workshops for teens; Family Café, which offers an opportunity for families to work together on an art project; and my favorite, ukulele lessons for kids who have never had the opportunity to play a musical instrument.

The County of Los Angeles Public Library is one the best public libraries in America. You can Google our website for a list of our innovative programs and services.