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LA County Library Earns Three National Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties for Systemwide Virtual Programming, Bridging the Digital Divide, and 19th Amendment Centennial Commemorative Artworks

LA County Library is pleased to announce that it has earned three Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents. LA County Library was honored for the following programs:

Systemwide Virtual Programming: Connecting Across the County

LA County Library's [virtual programming](#) is a system-wide multi-division strategy to deliver thoughtful, impactful, cohesive Library offerings digitally, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and onward. Weekly pre-recorded videos and live interactive events offer programs for all ages and interests, and a way for customers to access essential resources, education, and connection with their communities. Though programming covers a wide breadth—from STEAM, to cultural history, to book talks—specialized resources were created for targeted populations, addressing the impacts of the pandemic to their lives.

Bridging the Digital Divide: Laptop & Hotspot Loans, Park & Connect, and Printing Pickup

LA County Library's new technology-focused services offer many ways for countless LA County residents who lack reliable internet or access to computers at home to gain the connectivity essential for their lives, making steps toward bridging the digital divide. [Laptop & Hotspot Loans](#) allow customers to borrow a Chromebook laptop and wireless hotspot for 3 weeks, just like a book, with the option to renew. [Park & Connect](#) expanded existing Wi-Fi at select libraries to the entirety of the parking lot, allowing anyone with a Wi-Fi enabled device to get connected with ease. Finally, a [Printing Pickup](#) program at all 80 locations offering Sidewalk Service, allows customers to print 10 pages daily using a wireless printing app and pick them up like any other item.

19th Amendment Centennial Commemorative Artworks - Joint Award with LA County Department of Arts and Culture

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors identified August 2019-August 2020 to celebrate 100 years since the ratification of the 19th Amendment of the United States, granting women the right to vote. To honor the centennial and the ongoing work toward achieving equity, the [Department of Arts and Culture](#) collaborated with [the LA County Women and Girls Initiative](#), to commission six artists to create commemorative artworks. The project invited LA's creative community to explore and celebrate the achievements of the Suffragists and place the movement in a larger historical context. The resulting artworks reflect a diversity of women and perspectives and highlight themes such as empowerment, civic engagement, resiliency, and the right to vote. The original artworks were made into posters, downloadable graphics to encourage voting in the November election, and, through a partnership with LA County Library, three of the artworks were turned into [special edition library cards](#) and distributed at Library locations offering Sidewalk Service during the Safer at Home orders. The 19th Amendment Centennial project is an excellent demonstration of a successful collaboration between several County departments and agencies.

“Over the past year, county officials and frontline employees have demonstrated bold, inspirational leadership,” NACo President Gary Moore said. “This year’s Achievement Award winning programs illustrate the innovative ways counties build healthy, safe and vibrant communities across America.”

Founded in 1935 to help strengthen America’s counties and their employees through advocacy and by enriching the public’s understanding of county government, NACo presents awards in 18 different categories each year that reflect the wide range of comprehensive services that the nation’s counties provide.

About LA County Library

Founded in 1912, LA County Library is one of the largest and most innovative library systems in the US. It offers free public resources including books, music, multimedia materials, computer and internet access, and educational and recreational services to 3.4 million residents across 3,000 square miles through its 85 community libraries, 1 institutional library, and mobile fleet of 14 vehicles, including 3 Bookmobiles, 6 MāKō (maker mobiles), and 5 Reading Machines. LA County Library is dedicated to reducing barriers and increasing access to and equity of public services for all. To learn more, visit LACountyLibrary.org and follow @LACountyLibrary on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

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