

Orange Public Library & History Center



Taft Branch



El Modena Branch



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## City of Orange Public Libraries REALLY are FREE!

The Orange Public Library Foundation works to meet the unfunded needs of the Orange Public Libraries (OPL), and it's free to use the library when you sign up for a free library card. Think about it: There aren't many truly **free** public places left in America. Most of our shared spaces require money, or a certain social status, and a paid membership to access. Malls exist to sell people things. Museums discourage loiterers. Coffee shops expect patrons to purchase a drink or snack if they want to enjoy the

premises. One place, though, remains open to everybody. The public library requires nothing of its visitors: no purchases, no membership fees, no dress code, and it gives patrons free use of books and technology along with many other educational tools.

Take a look to see some of the incredible things the Library Foundation is doing with the help of our generous donors and faithful volunteers as we work to make sure that the Orange Public Libraries remain FREE for everyone.

## Do you know what the Orange Public Library Offers?

With the Foundation's help, the Orange Public Library is able to offer many different and surprising items to check out. Aside from the thousands and thousands of books offered for check-out every single day, there are many other amazing opportunities at our three public library branches.

Are you going on a hike soon or headed up to the mountains? Why not check out a GoPro camera to capture the memories? Or instead of a GoPro, maybe you want to take the kids out to the desert to gaze at the stars. Then you might like to check out a Telescope Kit.

How about a S.E.L.F. kit? The nine Social Emotional Learning for Families kits include subjects like anxiety, mindfulness, grief, and resilience. Parents can check out these kits and help their children learn new skills. Other kits available for borrowing are Alzheimer's/dementia, citizenship, mental health, early literacy, and teen discovery.

Homework centers now have scheduled time for students in grades 1-6 to come by and get homework help. Additionally, residents can reserve a study room for themselves and/or a small study group session.

Something else that might surprise you: why buy what you can grow? Seed packets are available for free at all three branches. The Foundation uses volunteers to sort bulk seeds into small packs that you can take home and plant yourself. Anything from corn and calendulas to sweet peppers, strawberries, and luffas can be panted from seeds received from the Orange Seed Lending Library.

Curious about specific historical events in our community? You must make a visit to the History Center at the Main Library. Maybe one of the best "things" to check out from the Library is a ukulele, and then join the "Ukulele Soup" jam sessions offered monthly. Everything that our libraries offer, including the activities calendar, is always listed on the library's website. Come by for a visit to one of our three incredible Orange Public Library branches.

# Your Donations at Work

## OPLF Sponsored Programs



### OPLF Gifts Spark Early Learning with New AWE Computers

With the help of donations from OCPT and National Charity League/OVP, the Library Foundation donated the funds to purchase 6 AWE Children's Early Learning computers. Early learners, like this four-year-old, are able to access state-of-the-art programs catered to their age. This type of learning sparks a love of discovery in young minds. These computers are available in all three branches of the Orange Public Library.



For over eight years OPLF, in partnership with Orange Home Grown, has been packaging seeds for the Orange Seed Lending Library. Visit any of the three library branches to pick out free seeds to start your home garden. We estimate nearly 10,000 gardens have been started from the seeds the NCL volunteers have packaged for distribution.



## STEAM

science • technology • engineering • art • math

STEAM programs offer hands-on science, technology, engineering, art, and math experiences and are FREE!

The Library Foundation's *STEAM for Teens and Tweens* program is a series of five workshops for students in grades 6–12—sponsored by a grant from Southern California Edison.

Summer STEAM—a STEAM program for kids in grades 1–6, is sponsored by a grant from the Rotary Club of Orange.



On Thursdays during the hot month of July, the Library Foundation has a showing of popular family movies for the youth of Orange and their families to enjoy in the air-conditioned community room. The Family Film Fest is free to anyone who wants to attend, thanks to OPLF funding.



## LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

There are Little Free Libraries in four of our community parks that the Orange/Villa Park Chapter of National Charity League helps the Library Foundation restock weekly.

**"IT'S YOUR MONEY"**  
Workshop Series

**"IT'S YOUR ESTATE"**  
Workshop Series

Twice a year the OPLF hosts workshops on financial planning and estate planning. Free to the public.

For more information on OPLF's Annual Programs visit [oplffoundation.org](http://oplffoundation.org)

# El Modena Blooms: OPLF Funds Outdoor Makeover

The Teaching Garden at the El Modena Branch Library had its grand Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on December 4th. The Teaching Garden came into existence with the help of funds from OPLF and a State Library Grant. Stop by and visit the garden where you can learn about plants, nutrition, pollinators, and sustainability, or just come sit and enjoy the scenery.



## Why I Support the Library?



By David Bustamante  
OPLF President

When I retired from U.S. government service in 2008, my family and I came home to Orange, where my family had lived since 1973.

As one of my first tasks in retirement was to begin looking into my family's genealogy, I began spending afternoons at the Orange Public Library's History

Center. In addition to making real inroads into understanding both sides of my immigrant family, I began to see that the library served the important role of looking after the children of people who worked until late and did not have anyone to keep an eye on their kids until they themselves got home. The hard work being done by the library staff to meet the needs of these children caught my eye and very much impressed me.

Years later, when one of my acquaintances asked me if I would be interested in joining the Orange Public Library Foundation Board of Directors, I jumped at the opportunity. I have been busy ever since trying to help the library find the resources it requires in order to meet the needs of the people of Orange. You can find me parking cars in the library lot at the International Street Fair, getting businesses to donate baskets to the Foundation for its annual gala and fundraiser, and cheerfully offering my services wherever I might be able to help the library meet the needs of the people of Orange. I am thinking that it also might be time for me to get back to the History Center so I can continue my work on the family tree!

## Message from OPLF Past President - Kim Nichols

As we wrap up 2023, we are so grateful to all our donors and volunteers who continue to give back to the place that's given so much to the people in this community who walk through the front doors. This year has been packed with activities, workshops, and opportunities that the library wouldn't be able to do without the financial donations that the Foundation gives. We wish there was a word better than GRATEFUL for what our donors have given this year, nonetheless, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for how gracious our donors and volunteers have been this year.

At this year's Library Legacy Awards & Celebration fundraiser gala, we had a very successful evening where we raised thousands of dollars to continue to fund what we do. This year's event was held

at the Sandhu Conference Center at Chapman University, where 150 people gathered to recognize three organizations in Orange that are CRUSHIN' IT in our community.

- The Community Foundation of Orange
- The National Charity League of Orange Villa Park
- The Assistance League of Orange.

Additionally, we raised over \$15,000 to fund the Adult Literacy Program at the Library. Since its inception, the program has helped over 100 people learn how to read. Funding this program will provide staff support, consumable workbooks, binders, and paper for printing flash cards to be used for letter and sight words. By making a charitable contribution to the Foundation of any size, you become part of the ongoing legacy that the Foundation is able to give to the City of Orange Public Libraries.

**Every gift to Orange Public Library Foundation is important and makes a difference.**

Make your donation online using our secure website, [oplfoundation.org](http://oplfoundation.org), or use this form.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Check / Money Order enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Please Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my  Visa  MasterCard  American Express  Discover

One time donation  Monthly Donation  Quarterly

Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2023 Annual Fund and Legacy Award Donors

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### **2023 LEGACY AWARD LIVE AUCTION DONORS**

Wilson Automotive  
Terry Casey of the Fenians  
Orange City Fire Fighters  
Bell-Phillip Television Productions

## About the Foundation

The Orange Public Library Foundation is a tax-exempt non-profit 501c(3) organization raising money to support and enhance the Orange Public Library facilities, services, programs and technology.

For more information, please call (714) 288-2470 or visit [oplfoundation.org](http://oplfoundation.org).

All donations are fully tax-deductible.

Please make checks payable to **Orange Public Library Foundation** and mail to:

Orange Public Library Foundation  
407 E. Chapman Avenue  
Orange, CA 92866  
EIN# 33-0803671

*City of Orange*  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION**

