



# Fresno County Public Library

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT







# Mission

WE ENRICH LIVES AND BUILD COMMUNITY.

# Vision

Our vision articulates what success will look like in the future.

A LIBRARY CARD IN EVERY HAND.







## GREETINGS!

Fresno County Public Library (FCPL) has always been a place of innovation, providing information and services that are relevant and desired by our communities. This last year has been no exception to that tradition.

In February the Digibus, our mobile digital classroom, was finally launched! The Digibus visited several rural sites to provide week-long instruction in computer skills to assist with workforce preparation. The bus was donated by Reading & Beyond and was transformed into a mobile classroom last year thanks to a \$90,000 state library grant with matching funds from Fresno County and a donation of \$30,000 from the Foundation for Fresno County Library. Leading up to Fresno's new Amazon Fulfillment Center, the Digibus also received national attention with a \$10,000 donation from Amazon, matched by Dermody Properties.

The Foundation and the Friends of the Library continue to provide valuable support to FCPL through the annual book sale and other fundraisers. The revenues these volunteer organizations generate assist greatly in achieving our capital campaign goals for the Library. This year their focus will continue to be on raising funds for a new Clovis Regional Library and library branches in Reedley and the Highway City area, as well as meeting other library site needs.

This year, Library staff held conversations about community aspirations in Auberry, Riverdale and Clovis as part of the Library's newest initiative, Turning Outward. The Library will synthesize this information to create relevant services and programs. We are expanding these conversations among other groups in the coming year, so watch for your opportunity to participate!

The Library is busier than ever as we welcome everyone to use our facilities and materials to meet their informational and recreational needs. If you haven't been to a Library in a while, come see us! We are waiting to serve...

Sincerely,

Kelley Landano  
County Librarian







## Ideaworks Family Fab Lab

FCPL partnered with Fresno Ideaworks to present a series of hands-on, interactive family programs centered on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM). Popular programs included a Take Apart Day with families working together to disassemble and view the inner workings of electronics and appliances, a Castle Battle incorporating catapults in a cardboard-based competition, and Nerdy Derbies for racing decorated cars on a long wooden track. The series incorporated science and learning in fun, memorable activities for all ages, reaching over 250 participants throughout Fresno County.

# Bridging the Digital Divide

Providing equal access to technology throughout Fresno County

## Computer Sessions

Over half a million people logged on to public computers during the past year in library branches throughout Fresno County.



## Digibus

FCPL's new mobile computer classroom traveled over 2,000 miles across Fresno County, from Firebaugh to Reedley, with many additional stops along the way.



## WiFi

Our community connected wirelessly more than 100,000 times in the past year, maximizing use of free WiFi at all FCPL library branches, and using FOL-supported wireless printing at two locations.



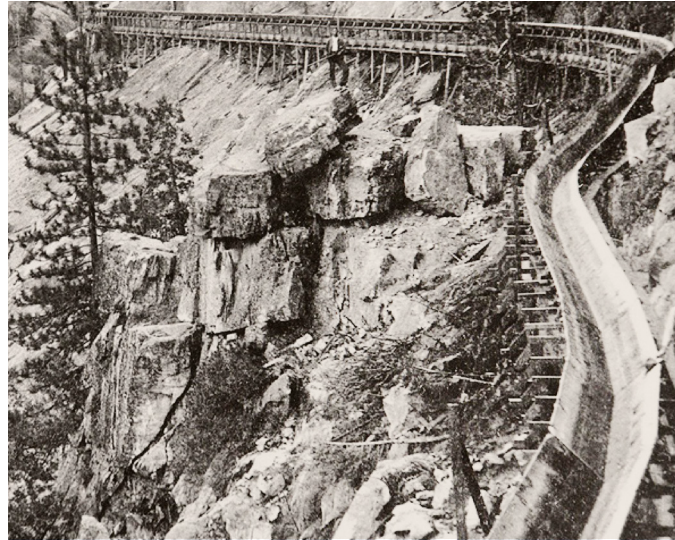
## Tech-Based Programs

FCPL offer many opportunities to tinker and build skills with technology. Nearly 300 public library programs focused on computer or job readiness skills in 2016-2017.





# Extending Our Reach through Grant-Funded Projects



## FOLLOW THE FLUME

Through a generous Community Stories grant from California Humanities, FCPL offered a series of local history programs tracing stories about the logging industry that helped shape the Central Valley. FCPL partnered with the Central Sierra Historical Society, the Sanger Depot Museum, the Clovis-Big Dry Creek Museum, and Fresno Ideaworks to offer a variety of diverse programs for many interests. The project included local history presentations about the flumes, logging trains, and their influence in creating mill towns in the valley. Other offerings included accounts of the effects of the logging industry on Native American life in the mountains, musical performances, a film screening, and hands-on children's programs. The project reached over 600 participants through 19 public programs that stretched over ten zip codes.



## MUSIC IN THE PARKS

La Musica en los Parques

Through the Foundation for Fresno County Public Library, FCPL offered a series of free family music programs celebrating Latino culture in public parks throughout Fresno County. The project, generously funded by a grant from the Central Valley Community Foundation, offered nine public programs in neighborhood parks in Malaga, Orange Cove, Kerman, Sanger, and Fresno. The programs included mariachi ensembles, folklorico dancers, and local children's authors and performers. Celebrations included Dia de los Muertos in the fall and Dia de los Ninos/ Dia de los Libros in the spring. Each program also included a pop-up library of materials in English and Spanish and a traveling, hands-on exhibit of instruments. Over 1,600 people enjoyed easy access to these free community events.



## DIGIBUS

In January 2017, FCPL started an exciting service known as the Digibus. For six months the mobile computer classroom traveled the county providing online job skills in both English and Spanish. A migrant farm worker completed a resume while the bus was parked in a Walmart parking lot. A mom who came on board, after visiting the Reedley Department of Social Services office got a job interview just a few hours later. Looking ahead, from navigating citizenship forms to enrolling in Covered California, the Library is helping bridge the digital divide based on community needs. Learn more at: [fresnolibrary.org/digibus](http://fresnolibrary.org/digibus). This project would not have been possible without generous support from the Library Services and Technology Act through the California State Library, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Foundation for Fresno County Public Library, and Reading and Beyond.



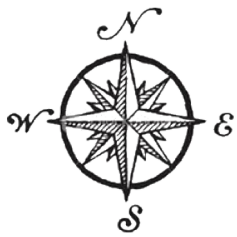
## RURAL GATEWAYS

FCPL is a proud recipient of the Rural Gateways: Pushing the Limits grant from Califa and the National Science Foundation. The first phase engaged the Riverdale community through a series of four public adult programs involving science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Described as 'book discussion club meets science café,' the grant provided free copies of four popular books for the public. Themes from the books were the springboards for interesting presentations from local experts. A deputy coroner presented an introduction to forensic science, a local falconer featured her live birds of prey, a search and rescue volunteer shared stories from the field, and a local university professor provided a hands-on presentation about fossils. FCPL looks forward to the second phase of the project, starting in October 2018.



# Cultivating Community

From Life Hacks for Teens in Kerman to Astronomy Nights in Auberry, **Fresno County Public Library** offers something for everyone in our unique and diverse communities.



Highlights from 2016-2017 include a visit from the Harlem Globetrotters at the Betty Rodriguez Regional Library, Trivia Nights at the Woodward Park Regional Library, a kindergarten-readiness storytime at the Fowler Branch Library, and much more.



# Services for New Americans:

## Engaging Fresno County's Diverse Community



### CITIZENSHIP CORNERS

Citizenship Corners are designated spaces within 13 library branches that provide information and resources to support immigrants along the United States citizenship path. Materials include books, videos, applications for naturalization, community resources, and test preparation materials. An electronic Citizenship Corner on [www.fresnolibrary.org](http://www.fresnolibrary.org) provides free access to information and resources online. The online portal also contains links to the 100 Civics Questions on the naturalization test, translated in many languages.



### CONVERSATION CIRCLES

Conversation Circles for non-native English speakers are taking place at a variety of community locations. The gatherings allow participants free opportunities to practice English in a welcoming and friendly environment. Partnerships with school groups, religious institutions and local nonprofits allow convenient meeting locations. The literacy team provides partner agencies with appropriate materials and training. Conversation Circles have helped participants get jobs, enroll in adult school, and communicate more effectively with children's teachers. People from many diverse backgrounds join the circles, with first languages of Hmong, Lao, Khmer, Punjabi, Hindi, Spanish, Arabic and Russian. Through the circles, FCPL's Literacy Services has reached more than 100 customers.



### CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES

In partnership with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, FCPL held four citizenship ceremonies in various library branches during the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Over 100 new Americans took the oath of allegiance at these events, which were enhanced by youth librarians with storytimes, book talks, and crafts. Each new citizen received a tote bag with library promotional materials and information about relevant community resources. A world map allowed participants to place a sticker on their country of origin, providing a visual representation of Fresno County's rich diversity.



### COMMUNITY POTLUCK

FCPL received grants from California Center for the Book for a series of programs entitled, "California: Community Conversations about Immigration." Through the project, FCPL added twenty titles of books and DVDs to the library collection, representing a wide variety of cultural and immigration experiences. The project also includes four public programs, including "Taste the World: A Community Potluck." During this free program, community members prepared over twenty unique ethnic food dishes to share, and provided information about the origins and traditions of each dish. A sampling of dishes included tres leches cake, Hawaiian pulled pork sandwiches, isso wade, danh-hoon, and Southern greens with turnips.



# Creating Book-Rich Environments

As FCPL combats “food deserts” in areas with limited access to healthy food options through its Lunch @ the Library program, the Library also aims to overcome local “book deserts” through new initiatives. Especially in areas of lower income, youth may have limited options for books to read at home. Without books of their own, children and teens are more likely to begin the “summer slide” of learning loss that can occur in months between school years.

To help bridge the gap, FCPL tried something new with the 2017 Summer Challenge. Instead of offering the traditional toys and restaurant coupons as prizes, the Library offered a free new book to each participant that registered for the reading program, and another new book at the end of the eight-week program. The Summer Challenge successfully kept Fresno County youth active and engaged during this critical period.

FCPL also partnered with the National Book Foundation and the Fresno Housing Authority on a book distribution event at Orange Cove’s Kuffel Terrace. The first of four events, the program consisted of a story time and bubble lab for children. Each participant that registered for the Summer Challenge received a free new book. FCPL also reached new audiences by offering similar programs at five housing authority sites near library branches within the Fresno metro area.





# The Foundation

The Foundation for Fresno County Public Library is a community benefit organization that raises funds for the Fresno County Public Library's buildings and special projects. Starting in 2012, the Foundation has worked on various projects that support the Library's mission of enriching lives and building community. The Foundation believes that early literacy and lifelong learning are the keys to social progress in Fresno County and the Central Valley. For more information, visit [fresnolibraryfoundation.org](http://fresnolibraryfoundation.org)

# Friends of FCPL

Founded in 1980, the Friends of the Fresno County Public Library consists of community members who serve as a link between the Library and the community. As a 501 (C) (3) non-profit, the FOL raises money to support various special projects. Members of the Friends of the Library support FCPL generously through donations, volunteering, and advocacy. With branch chapters in 19 locations, the FOL holds book sales, support programs, and acts as a strong advocate for the Library. This past year, the FOL had 4,329 members.

## ADMINISTRATION

County Librarian  
**Kelley Landano**

Associate County Librarian  
**Vacant**

Executive Secretary-Confidential  
**Karen Coletti**

Financial Services Manager  
**Jeannie Hurtado**

Division Managers  
**Raman Bath, Manager of Property Services**

**Deborah Janzen, Manager of Public Services**

**Lisa Lindsay, Manager of Community Services**

**Susan Mann, Manager of Support Services**

Development Officer  
**Susan Renfro**

Community Relations Analyst  
**Rocky Vang**

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 1  
**Brian Pacheco**

District 2  
**Andreas Borgeas**

District 3  
**Sal Quintero**

District 4  
**Buddy Mendes**

District 5  
**Nathan Magsig**

County Administrative Officer  
**Jean Rousseau**

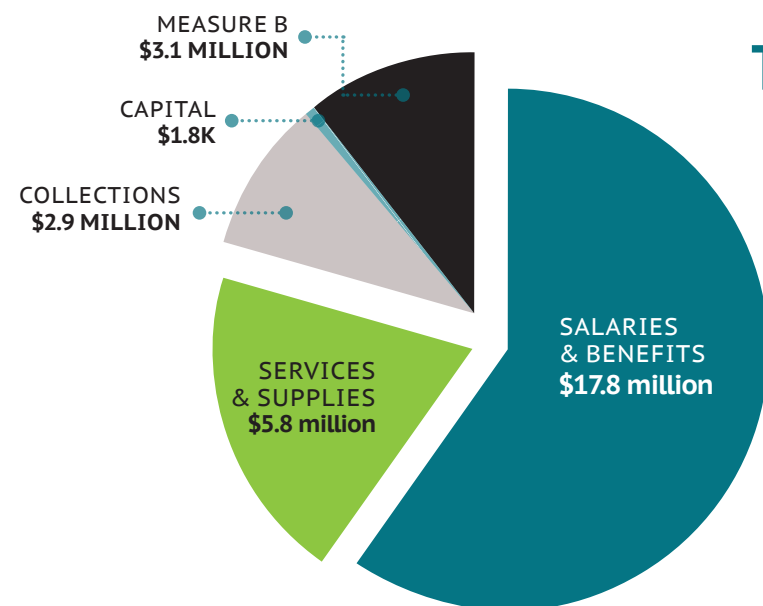
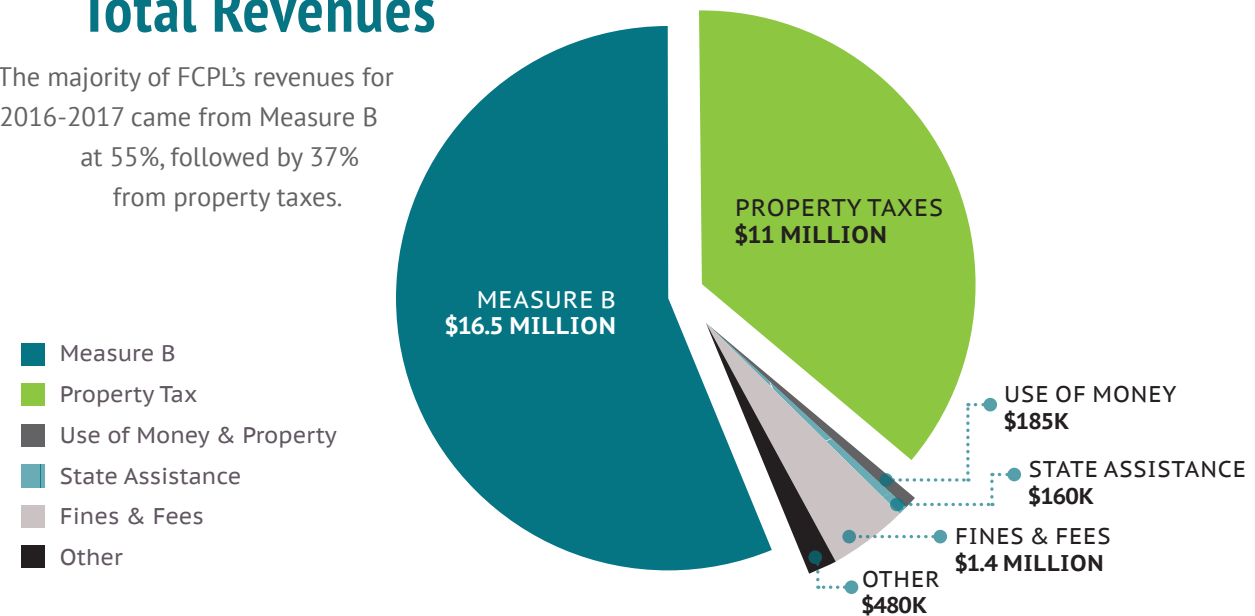
# Thank You



# Revenue | Expenditures

## Total Revenues

The majority of FCPL's revenues for 2016-2017 came from Measure B at 55%, followed by 37% from property taxes.



## Total Expenditures

Salaries and benefits account for over 60% of expenditures for 2016-2017, with the remainder going to services, supplies and savings.

- Salaries & Benefits
- Services & Supplies
- Library Collections
- Capital Lease Building
- Measure B Savings Fund







FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC  
**LIBRARY** 

[WWW.FRESNOLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.FRESNOLIBRARY.ORG)